

The Iron Age

A Review of the Hardware and Metal Trades.

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Sillman's Gang Band Saw Mill.

We present herewith an illustration of an important novelty in saw mill machinery, which is so well shown as to require but brief description. The invention, for which Mr. H. Sillman, of Brooklyn, holds the patent, consists in the arrangement in juxtaposition with each other, of sets or series of band saws, and in the combination of shafts with the upper and lower journal boxes of the pairs of pulleys or wheels of opposite saws, to each shaft, having a right-hand thread on one half, and a left-hand thread on the other half, intermediate shafts connecting each pair of screw shafts by suitable bevelled gears, whereby the saws of the several pairs may be uniformly adjusted laterally, either toward or from each other.

Journal boxes composed of two parts are used, one capable of sliding vertically within the other. A screw passes through the vertically sliding part, and impinging against the bottom of the other part, is operated by a worm gear. This mechanism is controlled, and the tension of the saws adjusted from the sides of the machine, by means of a hand wheel, shown at the left of the engraving. The adjustment for thicknesses of lumber is effected by horizontal shafts above and below, previously referred to, which have right and left screws cut upon them, and which are simultaneously operated by means of two vertical shafts, shown at the right of the engraving. The right and left hand screws respectively pass through sliding blocks which carry the bearings of the saw pulleys. Their operation, therefore, is to separate or bring nearer together the band saws, while, at the same time, the blades are kept parallel with each other.

The practicability of cutting lumber with band saws has already been fully demonstrated. The only drawback has been, that the band saw mill could not turn out the same amount of work in a given time as the circular saw mill or gangs of reciprocating saws. With band saws used in gangs, as herein described, this objection will be removed, and a great saving of lumber effected.

A very important application of the invention will be the cutting of stone, the metal bands being armed with borts or black diamonds. The employment of borts in connection with metallic bands has, we understand, been successfully begun by a company in Newark, N. J., a patent having been recently obtained on a method of attaching diamonds to metallic bands, by Mr. Herbert Cottrell, of that city.

Molecular Changes in Iron.

The following article from the *Engineer*, relating to a subject already discussed at great length, and by writers of eminent ability in these columns, will be read with interest:

MOLECULAR CHANGES IN IRON.

Professor Thurston has contributed to *The Iron Age* a paper on "The molecular changes wrought in iron by changes of temperature," which is distinguished at once by great research and clearness of statement and deduction; indeed, in saying only this we fear we do him but scant justice, for it has seldom fallen to our lot to find in a comparatively short treatise such an amount of information, the correctness of which is guaranteed by references almost innumerable to the authorities from whom it is derived. The importance of the subject itself, in the abstract, will be readily recognized by engineers, for whether we look upon iron in a static condition, as a material of construction, or to its use in machinery, we cannot fail to see the great value which attaches to distinct and reliable definitions of the changes produced in it by variations of temperature, or, indeed, by any other changes of physical conditions. Professor Thurston's treatise commences with a statement of the most generally accepted views of the molecular constitution of matter, which is well worth attention, but which we are from want of space compelled to pass over, and we proceed at once to consider the changes in metals, more especially in iron, at different degrees of temperature. Referring to the change in iron from the liquid condition through the pasty, semi-fluid, welding state, to that of comparative brittleness at ordinary temperatures, the professor says: "It would be anticipated that it might continue with still further decline in temperature," and that "it would not appear unlikely such change might progress indefinitely, or until resilience were absolutely destroyed by the approximation of molecules, and the coincident fixity due to a maximum intensity of polarity." And on this head he points to the opinions of Tredgold and Dr. John Percy, the former of whom thought that any increase of temperature would diminish the tenacity of metals, whilst the latter holds contrary views, basing his belief upon the fact that accidents from fracture are of more frequent occurrence in cold than in warm weather. A very important error, and one, we think, of not unfrequent occurrence, is here remarked upon, viz., the common attempt

to estimate the strength of materials by experiments in which they are tested by shock; for it is evident that although a material may be immensely strong, and yet if brittle—non-resilient—it may be readily broken by a blow which would not injure a less tenacious but more ductile specimen. In this opinion we fully concur, as also in the statement that "change of temperature may, while producing an alteration in the cohesion of metal, effect a directly opposite change in its ductility, and that consequently the substance may exhibit

complaint, the forge manager was applied to for some explanation, and he quietly took half a dozen of the bars, and laying them down on the warm flooring plates in front of a reheating furnace, allowed them to remain there something like three-quarters of an hour, at the expiration of which time no difficulty whatever was found in bending them to the right angles required. Now, this appears to us a direct contradiction to the conclusions arrived at by Mr. Styffe, the director of the Royal Technological Institute, of Stockholm, and quoted by Pro-

fessor Thurston, exhibiting at 10 deg. Fah. only from one-third to one-fourth of the strength which it possesses at 84 deg. Fah.; Secondly, that the ductility and flexibility of such iron is also much affected by cold, rails broken at 10 deg. Fah. showing on an average a permanent deflection of less than 1 in., whilst the other halves of the same rails, broken at 84 deg. Fah., showed a set of more than 4 in. before fracture; Thirdly, that at summer heat the strength of Aberdare rails was 20 per cent. greater than that of the Creusot rails, but that in winter the latter were

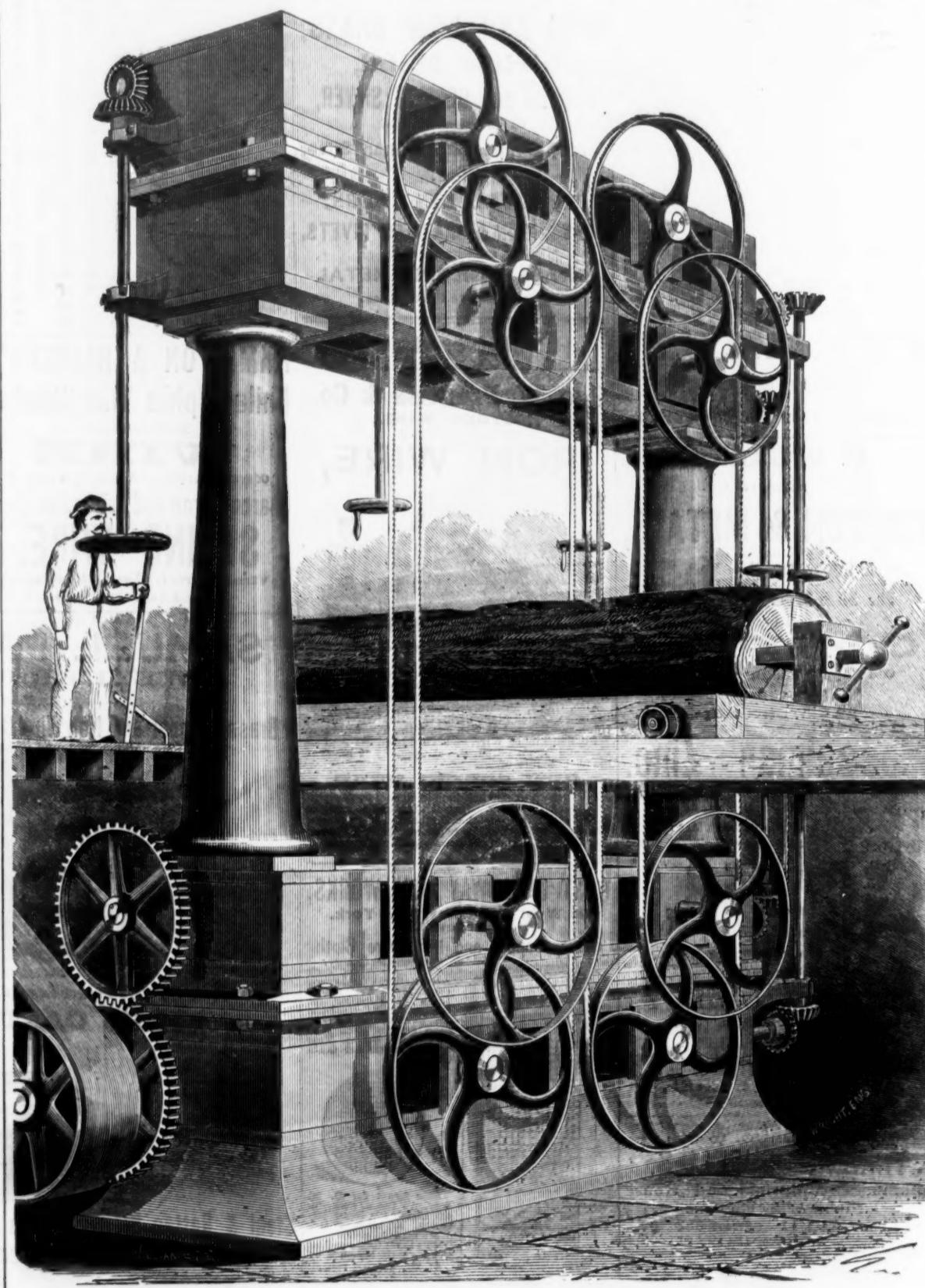
and Blaenavon cold blast, and Glengarnock hot blast irons with scrap added, he found a perceptible decrease of strength with decrease of temperature; and he noted beside a similar effect where wrought iron was tried. Against this may be placed the experiments of Mr. Peter Spence, who has "No hesitation in giving, as an ascertained law, that a specimen of cast iron, having at 70 deg. Fah. a given power of resistance to transverse strain, will on its temperature being reduced to 0 deg. have that power increased 3 per cent."

It appears, however, to be definitely certain that there is a continual molecular change going on at all times and at all temperatures in both cast and wrought iron, and on this head may be instanced the gain in strength of cast iron ordnance as it grows older, and the recovery of temper and endurance of edge noticeable in chisels and similar tools after any lengthened period of disuse and exposure to atmospheric influences. Against the very theory which Professor Thurston seems inclined to support, viz., that cold, or rather absence of caloric, decreases the strength of iron, the experiments of Mr. W. H. Johnson, which are quoted in the paper before us, may also be adduced. By these it was found that immersion in acid diminishes the breaking strain of iron wire from $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 3 per cent., and of steel wire about 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; and, further, that immersion in acid appears, in some cases, to diminish, and in others slightly to augment, the elongation of iron wire, and also to augment the elongation of steel wire about 30 per cent. But, in both instances, heat restored to the iron its original toughness. This is surely not a confirmation of the idea that a lowering of temperature increases the strength of iron. One more example. Mr. Oliver Williams says, of two specimens of rail iron from different bars, but both made at Catasauqua, Pennsylvania: "These specimens were first nicked with a cleft on one side only, and then broken under a hammer at a temperature of 20 deg. Fah. At this temperature both specimens broke off short, showing a clearly defined granular and steely vein feature. The pieces were then gradually heated to about 75 deg. Fah., and then broken, as before, developing a fine, clear, fibrous grain. The two fractures were but four inches apart, and are entirely different." We apprehend that nothing can be more conclusive than such an experiment as this, and yet in the conclusions drawn by Professor Thurston we find the following: "That at the absolute zero (-461.2 Fah.) cohesion, and consequently the strength of the material, have their maximum value, heat energy having disappeared."

We believe, however, with the author of this treatise that there is yet a large field unexplored, in which experiments as to the molecular changes of iron at different temperatures may be very profitably carried out. Our own opinion, however, is, and certainly our practical experience confirms it in almost every instance, that any temperature below 32 deg. Fah. tends to decrease the strength of both wrought and cast iron. That the ratio of this decrease is altered by and depends on the quality of the metal, we readily concede, and we venture so far as to say that in all probability different portions of the same bar and different pieces of the same pig or casting possess different degrees of strength and resilience. In fact, every different morsel of iron has a different strength, which varies directly or inversely, as the case may be, with the alterations of temperature, but to say that at temperatures below 72 deg. Fah. the tenacity of iron increases with the diminishing temperature at a rate of about 0.03 per cent. to 0.03 per cent. for each degree of Fah., is certainly not in accordance with our belief or experience.

A New Blast Furnace in Philadelphia.—A new era in Philadelphia enterprise was started about a week ago, by the putting in operation of Robbins & Sons' new blast furnace, at Beach and Vienna streets. This furnace was planned, and its erection superintended, by the well-known firm of Taws & Hartman of this city. The furnace is fourteen feet diameter of bosh, sixty feet high, and is fitted out with all the modern improvements which have been found of real value by practical furnace men. This is the first blast furnace erected within the limits of this city, and is regarded as a monument to the pluck and energy of its owners, to whom we wish all success. Mr. Stephen Robbins has invented a sing granulator which he uses in connection with Lubermann's closed iron, and which is erected in good style and works well. The furnace started off finely, and is now in successful operation.—*Bulletin of The Iron and Steel Association.*

The old furnace of the Franklin Iron Company is historic. It is the oldest and perhaps the most widely known of all the American furnaces. During the revolution its iron was especially valuable to the struggling Colonies, so much so, that Congress took especial notice of it. It was built in 1770, repaired in 1854, and is now used as a lime kiln.



SILLMAN'S GANG BAND SAW MILL.

greater tenacity, and may, therefore, better resist a steady strain, while at the same time its ductility may be so greatly increased by the same cause as to greatly lessen its resilience, and thus, though stronger, it may be less capable of resisting shocks."

It may be well, just at this point, to relate a matter which came under our own personal experience with reference to the effect of low temperatures on wrought iron. A quantity of small guide mill iron $\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. was to be used as cramps, thus, [] for railway bar piles. It was delivered to the purchasers somewhere about the middle of winter, and during a season of very severe frost. In a very few days complaints were received that the iron would not bear bending, and that hence it was utterly useless for the purpose intended. Examination proved that the complaint was well founded. The cramp irons actually would not bend, but snapped off at a blow of the hammer like so many glass rods. Unable to gainsay the

professor Thurston, "that the modulus of elasticity in both steel and iron is increased on reduction of temperature and diminished on elevation of temperature." Nor would the further opinion enunciated by the experimenter, viz., that the causes of breakage of rails in cold weather, and of articles made of iron and steel, is "unequal expansion and contraction and the rigidity of supports," in any way apply to the case in point. Again, Sandberg, as quoted in the treatise under notice, appears to have doubted—as we do ourselves—whether the reasons just given were the sole ones why metals should break more readily in cold than in hot weather, and his experiments—some twenty in number—resulted in the following conclusions, amongst others: First, that for such iron as is usually employed for rails in the three principal rail making countries—Wales, France, and Belgium—the breaking strain, as tested by sudden blows or shocks, is considerably influenced by cold; such iron

20 per cent. stronger than the former; and he—Mr. Sandberg—further suggests that this considerable decrease of toughness at low temperatures may be due to "cold shortness" produced by the presence of phosphorus.

Now, are we to assume from these statements that there is in both cast and wrought iron a tide of molecular movement which is constantly, as it were, ebbing and flowing with the alternations of temperature. Mr. David Kirkaldy's experiments go almost to prove that such is the case, for he says: "The breaking strain is reduced when the iron is frozen; with the strain gradually applied the difference between a frozen and an unfrozen bolt is lessened as the iron is warmed by the drawing out of the specimen;" and hence, then, as we take it, the application of heat produces to a certain extent a greater degree of molecular cohesion. Mr. William Brockbank states that in experiments made on cast iron of the different qualities of Cleator red hematite, Pontypool

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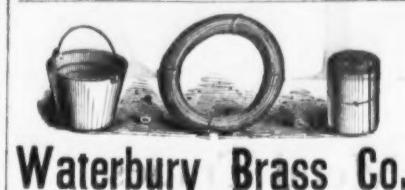
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STATUTORY STATEMENT.—Sworn and affirmed before me October 15, 1873.

Fire-Proof Flooring and Fire-Proof Construction.*

BY LEWIS HORNBLOWER.

The question of fire-proof flooring and fire-proof construction generally has for a long time occupied my mind by the gigantic fires that have occurred, not only in America, but in our own country. The loss of life, to say nothing of the loss of property, has been enormous, and the insurance offices have suffered considerably. I find, from a return made to the Board of Trade for the year 1871, that the losses of thirty-five insurance companies amounted in that year alone to the enormous sum of £2,197,004. 14/8, and this fearful loss has occurred notwithstanding all the advantages of the so-called fire-proof construction at present in practical use.

All descriptions of supposed fire-proof construction hitherto invented have miserably failed; iron girders and iron columns supporting brick vaulting have alike proved ineffective, and when subjected to great heat have collapsed. The only structures that have successfully resisted the most intense fires, and remained firm and rigid during their continuance, have been floors of brick, stone, or tile carried on brick vaulting, supported on brick piers. This method of construction has great disadvantages, from the great amount of space occupied by the brick piers. The desideratum to be aimed at is the construction of a perfectly fire-proof floor capable of covering a large area unsupported by columns and girders of iron, which, at the same time, must possess carrying power to sustain heavy loads of merchandise, and also admit of carrying fire-proof division walls for separating the rooms on the upper stories of large public buildings, as, for instance, hotels, hospitals, private houses, etc.

Seeing, from the mass of evidence produced, that iron and stone constructions are not fire-proof, and not to be depended upon, I directed my attention to a combination of fire-clay tiles and Portland cement concrete. It was necessary in this combination to use some small portion of iron as a tie, but I have used as little of this material as possible, and have placed it in such a position that no fire can touch it, or if it did, the effect would be harmless.

The object and scope of the invention is to provide walls, partitions, floors, and roofs of buildings at once light, cheap, durable, thoroughly fire-proof, and convenient for ventilating the rooms or spaces they enclose. For these purposes I employ the materials hereafter named, in combination, for walls, partitions, floors, and roofs: Iron or steel, hollow earthenware, and cement concrete; and for partitions, under a modification—iron or steel, metal wire, earthenware pipes, and cement concrete.

Walls, partitions, floors and roofs are constructed of sheet iron or steel, preferably so formed as to represent one-half of an octagonal honeycomb cell in transverse section, reversed and placed as flitches parallel to each other, with a space of 6 inches between the flitches. In this space are placed pipes of hollow earthenware, with the sides splaying outward at the base to form a skewback. These pipes are in 2 feet lengths, and the iron flitches are bolted to and through the earthenware pipes, thus forming a composite girder. These girders are placed 2 feet from center to center at the proposed ceiling height, having 4½-inch wall-hold at each end. A rough staging is required by way of support on which to lay the floors; between each skewback an earthenware hollow pipe—with oval-shaped head and flat softfit, with a dovetailed channel or indentation running longitudinally to receive plaster or ceiling—is placed, with sufficient room left between the composite girders to receive the charge of cement concrete. This is filled in from the upper side, and well consolidated. The upper surface of floor is truly leveled and grouted with pure cement grout, and brought to a fair and smooth surface, if intended to form a finished floor; but if tiles, marble, flooring boards, or parquetry, are proposed to be used for finishing flooring, the concrete is simply leveled and left rough to receive the battens to which the boarded floors are nailed.

Holes are left in the softfits of the hollow pipes, where requisite, for ventilating the rooms below, and the pipes so utilized are connected with flues in the walls adjoining; or if it is desired, in these days of dear coal, to economize fuel, hot air may be conveyed, by means of these hollow tubes, from any central and convenient point in the basement, where a heating apparatus may be located, to any room throughout the building thus constructed.

In walls and partitions the iron and steel lengths are placed in a vertical, in floors in a horizontal, and in roofs in an angular position. Partitions are constructed of half-octagonal honeycomb iron or steel cells, with metal wire stretched across, instead of laths, to receive the cement concrete or plaster, such wire serving to tie the iron and steel lengths, and at the same time to hold and strengthen the cement concrete or plaster. It will be obvious that bricks, flooring boards, tiles, marble, or other material or desired surfaces, may be attached to parts constructed in accordance with my invention, whether for floors, walls, ceilings, or roofs. I am satisfied that this is the only really fire-proof construction now before the public, and by far the cheapest.

In consequence of the extraordinary advance in the price of iron, I have been compelled, in order to keep down the cost of the floor, to economize in the use of wrought iron in its construction. I can now construct a floor without the octagonal iron flitches, simply by forming the composite girders separately, before fixing, by running a ¾ or larger diameter wrought-iron rod or bar, with nuts, head, and screws, through the center of the hollow tiles.

*A paper read before the Liverpool Architectural Society.

and charging the interior with fine cement concrete, gauged 4 to 1, and screwing the whole together, thus making a continuous beam and skewbacks to receive the hollow oval earthenware centers, which, in fact, throw the whole construction into a series of small arches, supported on composite girders, bound into a homogeneous mass by the cement concrete.

This mode of construction has many advantages for cottages either built separately (self-contained) or in accordance with the Scotch plan, where a number of dwellings are collected in flats, having access from a general staircase. It is cleanly, harbors no vermin, commands a ready means of ventilation—so necessary to the health and comfort of all, and so often unattainable by the poor—and would not entail constant repairing.

This construction would be of immense importance if used in the erection of hospitals, dispensaries, barracks, cotton manufactories, breweries, railway stations, warehouses, drying sheds, malt rooms, etc. It would be very valuable if used in the construction of floors over lock-up shops—so common in London, and in which, unhappily, so many fires have occurred, caused, I am informed by the police, in too many cases, by fraudulent tradesmen who purposely set fire to their shops to rob the insurance companies, without any consideration for the unfortunate families that may be living above them. One great commendation is that it is cheap, and can be constructed by any laborer of ordinary intelligence.

Great care must be taken in thoroughly incorporating and amalgamating the material forming the concrete together—old bricks, broken small enough to pass through an inch mesh, well-washed gravel and sand. Furnace slag, broken as before described, makes an excellent material to mix with the Portland cement to form the concrete. The proportions should be accurately measured; six, and (if the ballast is sharp and good) sometimes seven, of the materials above mentioned to one of the best double-tested Portland cement, carefully turned over twice while in a dry state, and well mixed. Too much water is fatal to the setting qualities of the concrete, because, when applied too copiously, it only washes away the cement from the mass; just sufficient water should be used to temper the whole, and the best mode of application is by rose waterpot. The concrete should not be made in greater quantities than can be readily carried to the floors and used before it commences to set. In forming the floors this fact must be strongly borne in mind. The floors must not be constructed in layers, but the full thickness must be put in one body; therefore no more should be attempted at once than can be satisfactorily completed the same day. When the floor has set for a fortnight the platform may be struck, but as the material gains strength daily until crystallization is complete, the floors should not be too heavily taxed at first.

The partitions, I am satisfied, would be very valuable if used instead of the stiled partitions, so generally used now to divide the rooms on upper floors—in fact nearly all the internal divisions of London houses are simply constructions of timber. The weight of the partitions must be put in one body; therefore no more should be attempted at once than can be satisfactorily completed the same day. When the floor has set for a fortnight the platform may be struck, but as the material gains strength daily until crystallization is complete, the floors should not be too heavily taxed at first.

The partitions, I am satisfied, would be very valuable if used instead of the stiled partitions, so generally used now to divide the rooms on upper floors—in fact nearly all the internal divisions of London houses are simply constructions of timber. The weight of the partitions must be put in one body; therefore no more should be attempted at once than can be satisfactorily completed the same day. When the floor has set for a fortnight the platform may be struck, but as the material gains strength daily until crystallization is complete, the floors should not be too heavily taxed at first.

For cottages and smaller houses, partitions of 4 in. and even 3 in. thick would be ample. I embed the metal uprights in concrete, passing the rods through the pipes, as before described.

In addition to the flooring, I have invented a very simple method of rendering iron columns and girders already erected in buildings perfectly fire-proof, by means of a ring of fire-clay tubes attached to the periphery of the columns and softfits and sides of the girders, securely bound together and attached to the iron by Portland cement concrete, which allows of a free current of air between the iron and the external facing of concrete. This casing adds only 2 in. to the thickness of the ring of the metal column.

I have had an opportunity of testing this practically and thoroughly in numerous buildings lately erected by me on this principle in Cumberland, for the Directors of the Hodbarrow Mining Company. The spans I have covered have been 14 ft., but I can readily, and should not hesitate to, carry a floor over a span of 22 or 24 ft., without any support than that derived from the walls themselves, by increasing the depth of the composite girders. These houses, 53 in number, in which I am introducing my patent flooring, are to be seen at Haverigg, in Cumberland. The material that is used for floors and roofs is simply sea-beach shingle combined with Portland cement. In the construction of the walls I have used the proportion of 8 of shingle to 1 cement, and for the floors 6 to 1 of the same materials respectively, but am satisfied that in the larger proportion of 8 to 1 it would be equally satisfactory.

Concrete walls (and I speak from actual experience) of 9 in. in thickness, will bear as much as any 14 in. walls built of brick. It is superior in many respects; it is impervious to water, and the walls can be built by any ordinary laborer, under proper supervision. The weight of the floor is 6 cwt. to the yard superficial, but this may be made less by reducing the depth of concrete on the floor. This invention is as useful for roofs as floors, it being only necessary to give a slight shedding toward the gutters. A good deal, however, depends upon the genuineness of the cement used; it must be equal in quality and well tested to strength.

I think I may safely lay claim to the following advantages embraced in my invention:

- 1st. Great cheapness.
- 2d. Large carrying power.
- 3d. Less iron (and that carefully protected) being used in the construction, and the other materials used being perfectly unflammable, its fire-proof qualities must necessarily be superior to those of any other flooring.

4th. In ordinary fire-proof floors columns and girders of iron have to be used, placed at intervals varying from 8 ft. to 12 ft. apart, and these are totally unprotected from the action of fire. In this flooring, even for heavy warehouses, girders would be required 15 ft. or 16 ft. apart, and columns 20 ft. distance, and these are carefully encased with fire-proof material; thus, not only saving a large amount of expense in girders and columns, but giving the floors, even in the hottest fires, by calculation, at least six hours' grace (as compared with ordinary unenclosed columns and girders) before the columns would become red hot; then, when water is played upon them, the casing would protect the columns and girders from the unerring action of the contact of the two elements, and enable them to cool down gradually.

5th. No ceiling joists or laths are required, the softfits of the fire-clay tubes being grooved and dovetailed to form key for plaster.

6th. The excellent opportunity given, where the floor is used, of conveying hot air to, or foul air from, the various apartments in which it is laid by means of the hollow fire-clay tubes; and this is of greater importance to the housekeeper since the great advance in the price of fuel, for here a great economy can be effected.

7th. In this construction I can obtain no perceptible lateral thrust—the strain is perfectly.

8th. No harbor for vermin.

9th. No counteracting required.

10th. The boarded floors need not be laid until all the plastering is finished.

Important Sale of Coal Lands.—The Mauch Chunk Coal Gazette, of the 19th inst., says: "For several months rumors have been circulated to the effect that the Central Railroad of New Jersey were negotiating with the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company for the sale or lease of their valuable coal property. Of late these reports were more industriously circulated, and early last week there was a perceptible movement upward in Navigation stocks. On Thursday it was announced that the Lehigh Coal and Navigation had sold all their New Jersey and Hanover coal lands and their leases at Plymouth to the Honey Brook Coal Company, which is controlled by the Central Railroad. We are not able to give the figures officially, but we are reliably informed that \$4,750,000 is the price paid. This sum will pay the floating debt of the company, and leave a large enough surplus in the treasury to pay a ten per cent. dividend next May. Some six thousand acres of coal lands are included in the purchase, to say nothing of the Plymouth property. Owing to the fact that the Central Railroad of New Jersey has the best facilities for carrying coal from the Wyoming region, this transaction will prove a most valuable one to the company. It gives them full control of the transportation of an immense quantity of coal from the mines to the tide, and they will also make a handsome profit as miners. The Honey Brook Coal Company, which has become one of the great mining companies by this transaction, has heretofore had its headquarters at Audenried, in this county, where it has several slopes and a large vein of excellent coal. Mr. E. F. Leisenring, the son of Judge Leisenring, is the superintendent at Audenried. The Honey Brook has been one of the most successful of companies, partly because of its good coal, and partly because it has always been well managed. The Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company stock advanced rapidly from 28 to 35½ on account of the sale. There are rumors that the company intend leasing their Summit Hill works, but the report was not confirmed upon inquiry at the offices."

The following are the principal dimensions of the steamships Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, of the American Steamship Line: The vessels are exactly alike in every particular. Length over all, 355 feet; length from forward part of stem to stern-post, 343 feet; from forward part of stem to propeller, 336 feet; beam, extreme, 43 feet; depth of hold from top of floors to top of spar deck, 32 feet 6 inches; hold, molded, from spar deck stringer-plate to top of keel, 33 feet 6 inches; depth of floor plates, 2 feet; hold, from top of floor to top of lower deck, 16 feet 8 inches; from top of lower deck to top of middle deck, 8 feet 4 inches; from top of middle deck to top of spar deck, 7 feet 6 inches; from top of keel to top of spar deck, 34 feet 6 inches; tonnage, 0. M., 3010 capacity of bunkers, 720 tons. Cargo space—middle between decks, 65,101 cubic feet, at 40 cubic feet per ton, 1627 tons; after hold, 24,107 cubic feet, 602 tons; forward, 42,082 cubic feet, 1062 tons; upper between decks, 22,946 cubic feet, 573 tons; total, 154,236 cubic feet, 34,107 tons. Capacity for a cargo of compressed cotton, at 30 cubic feet per bale, 51,817 tons. The draft will not exceed 20 feet 6 inches, and a weight cargo of 1740 tons (2240 lb.) or a medium cargo of 3854 tons (40 cubic feet), also a full complement of saloon and steerage passengers, officers and crew, all necessary stores and outfit on board.

Mr. Baker, British Inspector of Factories, mentions in his report, recently issued, that gas engines are coming into use in various trades, particularly for small letter press printers and ribbon weavers. It is a cheap and easily applied motive power, whenever a solid foundation for the engine can be obtained. In the neighborhood of Coventry, he observes, steam power forming a considerable element of expense in the weaving of ribbons, the gas engine has been applied to do the work of a man of thirteen or fourteen years of age, who used to turn the machinery, and the invention is acceptable, as relieving labor of some part of its fatigue.

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SECOND FLOOR

The Robinson System of Electric Railway Signaling.

Within a few years several systems of electric railway signals have been brought out in the United States. The chief features of these systems are that a train, in passing a particular point, operates an electric circuit, and thus exposes a signal in a signal house by the roadside. This signal remaining exposed until the train has reached a point a mile, more or less, beyond, when it again actuates the circuit, and the signal is thereby withdrawn. The main circuit in all these systems is a line wire, and they are technically known, therefore, as "wire systems" to distinguish them from the "rail system" of signaling which we illustrate here-with.

For nearly seven years Prof. Wm. Robinson, formerly of Brooklyn, has made a special study of electric railway signaling, and during that time has labored to overcome the objections usually urged against such systems, which may be enumerated as follows:

First—Granting the signal to be in perfect working order, a train passes on the section, and sets the signal at danger; if, while within the section the train breaks in two—a very common occurrence—and the locomotive passes on over the reversing device, it thus reverses the signal and shows "all clear" behind the portion of the train remaining on the section. Thus, a following train is lured on to collision, and the possible destruction of both trains, by a false signal.

Secondly—The train may enter from the opposite end or from a siding and thus block the section without affecting the signal. Thus the signal shows "all clear" again while the track is blocked.

Thirdly—if the battery is too long neglected or gives out from other cause, or if a line wire is accidentally broken, or the circuits are tampered with, the signal commonly shows "all clear" whether there is danger or not, since the signal is brought to "danger" by the electric current, and not mechanically. To sum up—the signal may and will, under certain circumstances, show "safety" when the danger actually exists which the signal is designed to avert. Thus, instead of preventing accident, it may, if relied upon, become a trap and a snare.

Mr. Robinson early recognized these as faults inseparable from wire systems of signaling, and accordingly entered upon the development of an entirely new system, which should be absolutely free from all the above objections. This new system he perfected some time since. It is extremely simple, and as it has never heretofore been illustrated, the description we give of it will, doubtless, prove of much interest to railroad men not already acquainted with it.

Its *modus operandi* will be understood from the following

DESCRIPTION OF DIAGRAM.

A represents a section of railroad track which may be a mile or several miles in length, each rail line of which has metallic continuity throughout the length of the section. The section of track *A* is separated from metallic contact with adjacent sections by the wooden joint blocks *a, b, c, d*. At one end of the section *A* is placed the battery *B*, having its opposite poles connected by the wires *e, f*, to the opposite rail lines *C, D*. In like manner the relay magnet *R* has its coils connected to the rail lines *C, D*, by the wires *g, h*; thus there is a complete metallic circuit from the battery *B*, through the wires *e, f*, rail lines *C, D*, wires *g, h*, and the coils of the magnet *R*. The latter thus remains magnetized, keeping the circuit through the battery *E* and signal magnet *S*, closed. The signal magnet *S* thus remaining magnetized, holds the signal banner *F* in a position of concealment with its plane parallel to the track, as shown in the diagram. When, however, a train enters upon the section *A* from either end, or from a siding, the wheels and axles bridge over between the rail lines *C, D*, and, by reason of their mass and consequent superior conductivity, they short-circuit the current from the rail battery *B*; the current, thus interrupted, forsakes the small wire of the magnet *R*, which, being thus demagnetized, releases its armature and opens the circuit of the battery *E* and signal magnet *S*. The latter, releasing its armature, the spring *I* swings the armature lever *H* in a horizontal plane. The lever *H* gears into a slotted crank *K*, which is fixed to the vertical shaft *L*, which latter carries the banner bearing cross arm *M*. Thus, when the spring *I* acts upon the lever *H*, the shaft *L* is thereby turned one-fourth around, the cross arm *M* describes an angle of 90 degrees in horizontal plane, and the banner *F* is thereby swung in front of the orifice *G* of the signal house, covering the same. Thus the signal remains exposed, while a train or a car remains on the section *A*. As soon, however, as the section is cleared, the magnet *R* is instantly remagnetized, the signal circuit closed, and the banner withdrawn to the position shown.

Incidentally this signal is a **BROKEN RAIL DETECTOR.** If one of the rail lines, *C, D*, is broken by the tearing up or breaking of a rail or disconnecting of a joint, the rail circuit to the magnet, *B*, is interrupted, the current from the rail battery grounded, and the magnet, *R*, demagnetized, and signal exposed, as already explained. The signal may also be operated from any office within the section, either by disconnecting one of the battery wires, *e, f*, or by connecting two wires from the rails, *C, D*, by means of a key. It is also operated by turning any switch which happens to be within the section. When desired, one or more secondary signals, thrown either forward or back of the primary signal, are operated. In this case a single line wire is used, which is connected to the third local post, *i*, of the relay, and to the primary signal, in such a manner that it is impossible for the

secondary signal to be shown unless the primary signal is first exposed. The primary signal battery, *E*, is used to operate the secondary signals, whether audible or visual.

This system has received a long and thorough test on the Philadelphia and Erie Railway, and is pronounced entirely satisfactory by the principal officers of that road. Trains on the P. & E. R. R. are regularly run by these signals, under the rule that when a signal appears against a train speed must be reduced so that the train can be brought to a dead stop in going a distance of one hundred feet. One of the signals on that road was twice reported out of order by a careless operator because the alarm near his office had been ringing for several hours. The Superintendent of Signals immediately investigated, and reported on both occasions that "the section men had the rails torn up in putting in new frogs, that the signal showed the danger, and was working just as it ought to." At another point—a dangerous curve—two disastrous collisions were confessedly prevented within a few weeks of each other by one of the signals. At a third, a freight train entered upon a section and set the signal. While on the section the wheel broke, wrecking several cars and tearing up the track. The signal remained exposed and the bells ringing at either end of the section, not only until the

hard cast iron, broke frequently; this was replaced by wheels of ordinary bronze, and then by those of phosphor bronze. The duration of ordinary bronze wheels did not exceed, on an average, five months, while those made of phosphor-bronze wore for about nine months. This material has also been applied with great advantage not only in the making of pinions, but in the driving axles of mills; in the latter case the superiority seeming to depend not on the hardness, but on the very great resistance of the alloy, the arbors in the phosphor-bronze twisting much less than those made of forged iron, and not being liable to break like those of cast iron. To give an idea of what is thought of it by the judges at the Vienna Exposition, we may remark that it obtained the following awards: in Group I, for cog-wheels, tuyeres, and bearings, the Diploma of Merit; in Group VII, for revolvers and parts of harness, the Medal of Progress; and in Group XII, for its application to guns and other war material, the Medal of Merit.

The value of phosphor-bronze as a metal is retained indefinitely, for, unlike other alloys, it can be remelted without any material loss or alteration of its quality; while heavy steel castings, on the other hand, when worn out or broken, are comparatively worthless. A great variety of objects hitherto worked in iron and

Action of Water upon Lead Pipes.

BY CHARLES W. VINCENT.

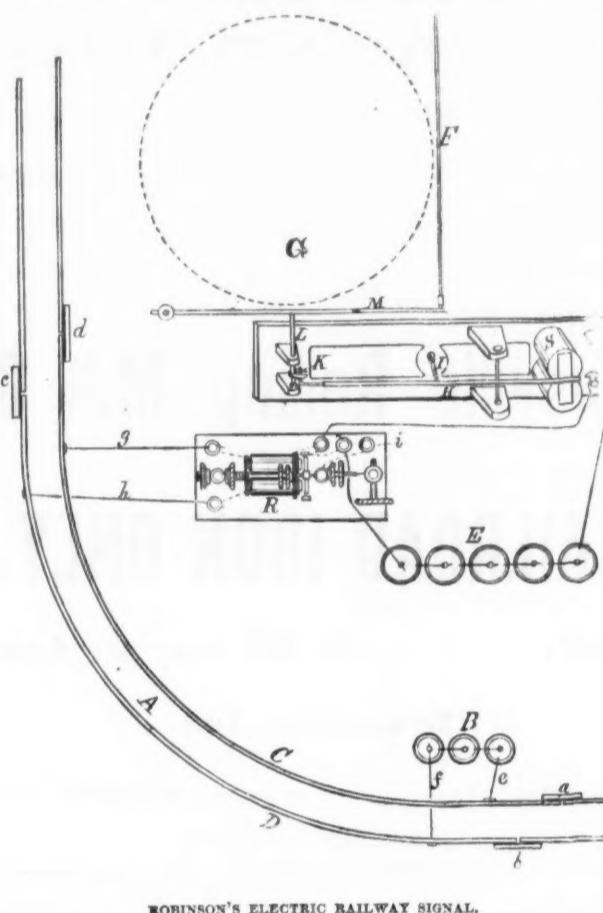
In most great towns the water, after it passes from the mains of the water companies, is distributed to, and through, the houses of the inhabitants in lead pipes. Every now and then some wiseacre who has learnt enough chemistry to know that plumbic oxide is sometimes formed by the action of water on lead, creates a panic in the mind of the public by pointing out this important fact. A great fuss is then made, and a great deal is said about the danger of this poison being overlooked until too late, from its being introduced into the human system in almost imperceptible quantities, there to accumulate until fatal consequences to health and strength are produced. Experiments are therupon immediately directed to be made by the professional chemist of the locality, who accordingly proceeds to plunge pieces of pure lead and lead-piping into the waters accused, into distilled water, fresh rain water, well water, &c. The results to be expected are well known, and have been well known at least for the last fifty years. The distilled water attacks and dissolves the lead with very great rapidity, rain water not quite so rapidly; the well water but seldom attacks it at all, and the river water, if it has traveled through any considerable distance, never. Few people have had long experience of a country district without meeting with more or less of such a panic; but that Paris, one of the most scientific of cities, and better supplied with chemists than perhaps any in the world, should have been frightened by such a silly outcry, is certainly matter for astonishment. It is, however, true, Paris has lately had her equanimity very greatly disturbed by having this terrible grievance added to her other troubles. According to a petition presented to the Municipal Council of Paris (and acted on by it), "the unwholesomeness of water which has remained for any length of time without circulating, in tubes of lead, is a fact recognized by the chemists and physicians of all ages and of all countries. The water so situated dissolves the lead, and when thus contaminated, its employment for culinary use will give rise to veritable poisoning—slow, chronic, without producing sudden fatalities, and for that reason all the more dangerous, for the lead accumulates in the organism, and only reveals itself when the mischief is consummated."

The consternation was extreme, though no one could be found who was suffering the dire effects of lead poisoning; however, Professor Dumas, Dr. Belgrand, and Dr. Félix Le Blanc, came to the rescue, and as their experiments, though not all novel, are, being recent, nevertheless very comforting to sanitary engineers and medical officers of health, who are at all times liable to have to answer for the water under their charge upon similar grounds, they may be shortly summarized. Professor Dumas, in five flasks put samples of distilled water, rain water, Seine water, Ourcq water, and surface well water; into each flask he then put granulated lead. The first water-flask, when submitted to the action of sulphureted hydrogen, gave indications of lead in solution when the contact had been only momentary between the water and the metal. In the case of those other waters which were more or less charged with calcareous salts, no lead was found, even after standing for a considerable time. The rapidity, Dumas says, with which pure water charges itself with lead, is very surprising, but the effect produced by the merest traces of calcareous salts present in solution in preventing this reaction, is no less so. Belgrand and Le Blanc directed their inquiries to the actual effect produced by leaden pipes at present in use. They found that the total amount of leaden tubing was not very great in comparison with the other kinds of pipes. In the city of Paris there are, for water conveyance, cast iron mains, 1,466,500 miles; iron plates asphalted, 75,709 miles; lead pipes, about 3600 miles; total, 1,545,800 miles.

The public mains are manifestly above suspension. It is only the short private branches which are of lead. The total number of these leaden connections is 39,495. The result of most careful experiments made upon the water from different sources, after passing through the lead branch into the house was, that in inhabited houses, that is to say, where the water never remains stationary in the lead branch for more than ten to twelve hours, not a trace of lead could be discovered.

With regard to water which is allowed to remain for a considerable period in contact with lead, the amount of the action depends entirely on the purity of the water. In distilled water the pretty tiny white scales of crystalline hydrated plumbic oxide form with very great rapidity, if there is free access of air, and the bottom of the vessel containing the lead and water will speedily become covered with a white deposit. Freshly fallen rain water acts nearly as well. Hence rain water for alimentary purposes should never be collected through leaden gutters. On the other hand, however, infinitesimal amounts of lime salts in solution may be, if they can be detected at all, the water in which they are found is positively free from all action as regards lead. Soft water dissolves lead, hard water preserves it unaltered. No other salts appear to preserve the lead so entirely from oxidation as do the salts of lime. Inasmuch, however, as it is impossible for water to percolate or pass over any considerable amount of soil without taking lime into solution, and that lime it is impossible wholly to remove by any means short of complete distillation; it follows that all river water may be conveyed by lead pipes without any interfering with its wholesomeness as potable water.

In Paris the matter is still being inquired into, and reports on the subject are expected from M.M. Boulland, Fordos, and Boudet; so that, perhaps, after the ghost of lead solution in drinking water has been duly laid by so many priests of science, it will not reappear for some few years to come, at least not in such a bold way as to affect the repose of the scientific world.—*Iron.*



ROBINSON'S ELECTRIC RAILWAY SIGNAL.

wreck was cleared away, but until the rails were replaced and connected, when the signal, having accomplished its work, instantly disappeared, and the bells ceased ringing.

It will be observed, regarding this system, that if the signal gets out of order by neglect of battery, or the accidental or mischievous interference with connections, the signal, being mechanically exposed, goes to "danger" so that any possible error will be on the side of safety. It is impossible to show safety when the danger exists which the signal is designed to avert.

BATTERY.

Mr. Robinson has a peculiar method of setting up and using the battery, so that although used in a closed circuit system, the battery will endure longer and with less consumption of material than it does in practice in any open circuit system. One of the batteries on the P. & E. R. R. was used on a signal for ninety-four days constantly without any attention except the addition, on two occasions, of a little water to make up for evaporation. At the end of that time it was in good working order, but it was found necessary to remove it to winter quarters.

Experience proves that the working of these signals is not affected by heavy rain, snow, sleet or changes in the weather. One of them may be seen at the present time in regular operation over a two mile section of rails, near Paschal Station, four miles from Philadelphia, on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad.

It is essential to the successful working of the system that the rails should be connected by first-class fish joints. The use, therefore, of these signals is evidence of a good track. Many of the roads in this country are very deficient in this respect, and cannot, therefore, successfully use the signals.

The system was patented by Mr. Robinson in France, on February 29, 1872; in the United States, August 20, 1872, and in other countries at various times. We shall be pleased to give our readers any further information in our possession in answer to letters of inquiry.

The New Alloy—Phosphor-Bronze.

The result of three years' experiment, on the part of certain manufacturers in Europe, of the use of the phosphor-bronze, which contains 8% per cent of copper, tends to affix a high value to this alloy. In the instances referred to it has been used to much advantage for the great bearings of the plates in general rolling mills, and for conical gearing in universal rolling mills, in cases where the rollers weighed five tons. It was found that the gear, when made of

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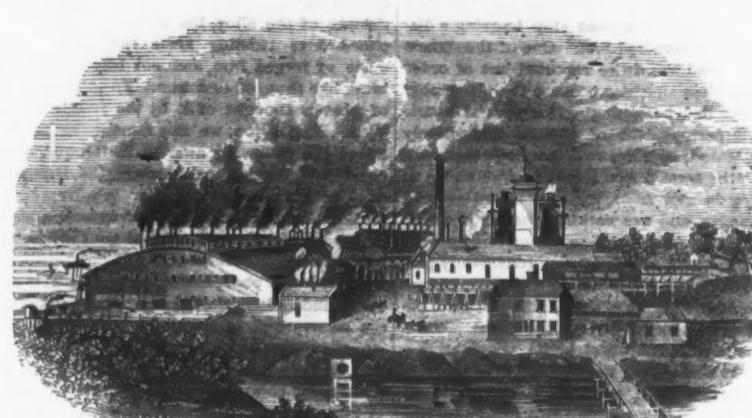
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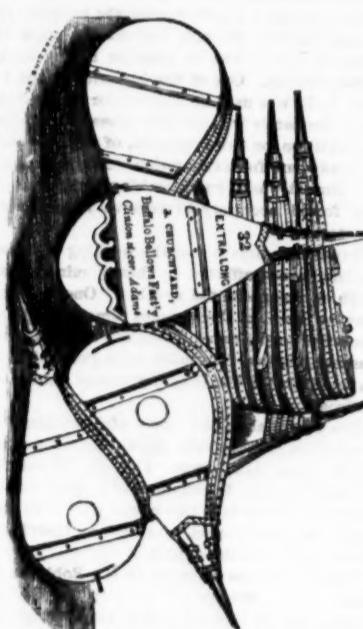
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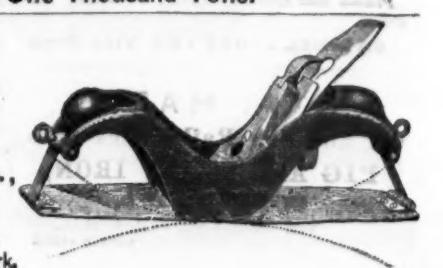
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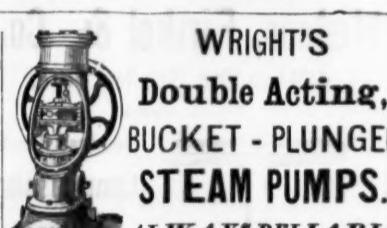
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MARK.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Kanawha Coal and Iron Fields of Putnam County, West Virginia.

PUTNAM COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, December 23, 1873.

To the Editor of The Iron Age: Having lately visited this section, and examined its coal and iron fields, I send you some facts respecting them which may be of interest to your readers.

The Great Kanawha River, running off at right angles from the Ohio, traverses the richest portion of the great Allegheny coal fields, cutting the coal measures of the region, 2000 feet thick, to their base, and developing their exhaustless mineral treasures in the most available manner for practical production. Although the coal beds are too far below the surface for immediate working, the iron deposits more than doubly make this section of the great coal field valuable. The exact depth of the coal in this county I am not prepared to state, but should judge it to be, from the general dip of the Allegheny coal fields, some 60 feet below low water mark of the Kanawha River.

There crop out in several parts of this country, about 250 feet above low water of the Kanawha, several veins of coal, which are commonly known as the "Raymond seam." The thickness of the several openings which I have seen do not exceed 24 to 30 inches, rendering it not a profitable business to work it. The quality is of a very superior *splint* nature, and I understand it to be the intention of parties located here, who contemplate a stone coal blast furnace, to entirely use the coal of their property, they having several outcrops of the seam above mentioned, lying immediately under a large bed of iron ore. In this case I should judge it would pay to mine, but otherwise coal mining in this county would not allow of large outlays in developing. It is too near the great coal deposits in Kanawha county, only some fifty miles up the river from this point. There exists in the highest hills of Putnam county four prominent seams of iron ore, consisting of brown and red hematite, yielding by analysis 50 to 58 per cent. of metallic iron. The seams vary in thickness from 2½ to 4 feet, and are easily mined, as they command such a position in the hills as to render stripping possible at trifling expense. And when drifting is necessary there is no rocks to contend with. These heavy deposits are 3 to 4 miles from the Kanawha River, at an elevation of 350 feet for the highest vein.

nearly every other manufacturer. These pumps have been in the market for four years, and increasing in favor every year. Three of them were exhibited at Vienna, and a medal was awarded Mr. Carr, being the only steam pump manufacturer so rewarded.

Charles Whittlesey, an eminent geologist from Ohio, has examined the ores as they lie in this county, and concludes his report with the following remarks: "The ores already known in Putnam county are abundant in quantity, and more beds will, on examination, be brought to light. As to quality, the analyses show they are equal to the Ohio furnace district, in Lawrence, Jackson and Vinton counties, known as the 'Hanging Rock Region,' and that the percentage of iron is greater." By permission I am allowed to copy the following analysis, made by Mr. Whittlesey, of the ores of this region known as the brown hematites of Putnam county, West Virginia:

INSOLUBLE MATTER.		
Bed	Bed	Bed
No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
Silex and alumina.....	16-35	8-84
Lime.....	none.	6-08
Sulphuric acid.....	none.	0-50
Phosphoric acid.....	not given.	0-90
Oxide of manganese.....	6-35	2-50
Loss by heating.....	not given.	9-71
Metallic iron.....	58-10	10-56
	50-15	56-80

The number one ore has been used by Cyrus Mendelhal, of Cincinnati, and in reporting upon it he states:

"The ore you refer to, brown hematite, we used with iron Mountain, Missouri, one-third West Virginia, without any marked effect on the working of the furnace, or in quality of iron produced. It was evidently very easily smelted, and the most desirable native ore we tried. We used it without calcining, having too limited furnace area to do it. The amount of phosphoric acid is certainly too small to be any injury to foundry metal, and for bars can, by Henderson's new process, long being successfully practiced near Glasgow, Scotland, be entirely removed."

The parties who are now in possession of the best portion of these deposits are pushing the railroad connecting the mines with the Kanawha River with all possible speed; and I look for grand results when these ores shall be generally worked by the furnaces of Ohio and Pennsylvania. There also exists throughout Putnam county large quantities of what is commonly known as kidney ore, yielding by analysis 85 to 90 per cent. metallic iron. So far no discovery of a regular deposit of this ore has been brought to light, it being found in large quantities on creek bottoms, and imbedded in the clays throughout the hills. No doubt there exists somewhere a deposit of this extraordinarily rich ore, but it remains to be discovered whether this is a fact. It is the present intention of the parties who own these valuable tracts to erect a charcoal cold blast furnace on the banks of the Kanawha. There is timber enough in the immediate neighborhood to run a 20 ton furnace thirty years. It has been carefully estimated that car wheel and foundry iron can be manufactured here at a figure not exceeding \$30 per ton. The same metal is worth to day in Cincinnati \$60 to \$65 per ton. This seems almost incredible, but it is undoubtedly a fact, as it has been estimated by numbers of experienced iron men, that pig iron, without doubt, can be made at such a low figure, when such special advantages are offered in quality and quantity of ore, cheapness

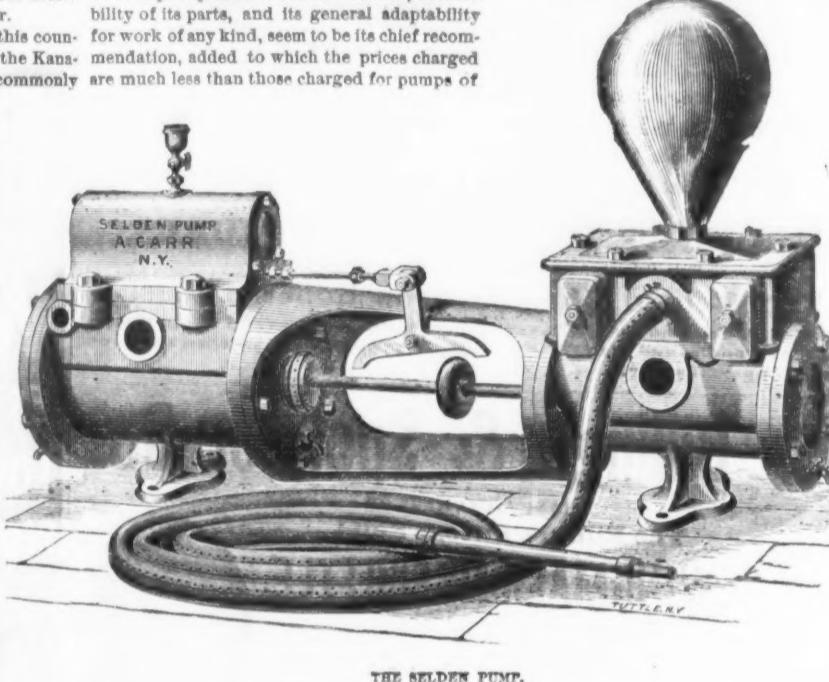
of mining, and almost the entire original growth, yet standing, of timber. I should be pleased to devote yet more space and time to this subject, and will state in conclusion that Putnam county presents finer openings for enterprise and capital than the best of the Kanawha Valley, or, in fact, than any of the other undeveloped mineral regions of our whole country. I omitted to mention the great advantages it possesses over many other localities for shipment in all directions. It is distant from Cincinnati by river 226 miles, and from Pittsburgh 219 miles. The cost of transportation should also be taken into consideration, as it is so far below that of other iron manufacturing centers. Pig metal or ore can be shipped to Cincinnati for from 50 to 75 cents per ton, and to Pittsburgh for \$1.00 per ton.

The Selden Pump.

The accompanying sketch shows a Selden Steam Pump, of which much has lately been written, and in general, very highly spoken of. The simplicity of its valve movements, accessibility of its parts, and its general adaptability for work of any kind, seem to be its chief recommendation, added to which the prices charged are much less than those charged for pumps of

quantity of coal consumed over 2000 tons. According to the official statistics, we learn further that the total exports of copper from Chili during the year 1872 were 45,500 tons, and from Bolivia 100 tons. The amount of coal exported from England to Chili from 1st January to 31st October, 1872, was no less than 178,893 tons, thus showing how large are the coal exports from that country to the Republic of Chili.

Machinists in the Navy.—The Navy Department, to secure a better class of men as machinists in the navy, has decided upon alterations in their status that will make the position one of honor to the incumbent. The machinist is an appointed petty officer of superior grade, and on board ship has, with other appointed officers, a separate mess, which is supplied by its members as they may see fit. The pay has been increased from \$61.50 to \$76.50 per month, which latter amount is still further increased, if the ration be commuted, to \$84, or \$108 per annum. The machinist may either be enlisted as such, or may be ap-



THE SELDEN PUMP.

nearly every other manufacturer. These pumps have been in the market for four years, and increasing in favor every year. Three of them were exhibited at Vienna, and a medal was awarded Mr. Carr, being the only steam pump manufacturer so rewarded.

The plunger pump made under this patent, it is claimed, combines, more than any other pump of this class, all the necessary strength and compactness required for such heavy work as they are generally used for. The attention of several German and English mining engineers have been attracted to the merits of this pump. One of them is now working in Bernadoff, Saxony, in a coal mine, and is giving such entire satisfaction that the parties using it are already negotiating for four others. Preparations are also being made for its introduction in England, a leading Liverpool firm having taken hold of it.

A full and accurate description of the various points of this machine would require more space than we can devote to that purpose, and we would refer our readers to the printed catalogue and price list of the manufacturer, A. Carr, 43 Cortlandt street, New York, for any such information.

Copper Smelting in Chili.

It is stated that Guayacan, in Chili (described as the "model republic" of South America), is the largest copper smelting establishment in the world, and therefore some information upon the subject will be interesting in England. The trade of Guayacan is confined exclusively to the operations of the firm of Urmeneta and Errazuriz, Chilian copper smelters. At these works about thirty to thirty-five furnaces of all kinds are kept running, employing about 300 hands, of whom from forty to fifty are Englishmen, and producing annually from 8000 to 10,000 tons of copper, destined almost exclusively for the English market. The ores smelted are received both by sea and land from various mining districts in Chili, and the fuel consumed in the process of smelting is principally Chilian coal, from the mines of Labu and the coast of Araucania, a small amount of British coal being also used. During the year 1872 about 4000 tons of English coal were imported, while about 40,000 tons of Chilian coal were received. During the same period about 8500 tons of copper were shipped to England by the steamers of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company. During the year 1872 about 14,600 tons of copper ores and regulus entered the port of Guayacan, carried almost exclusively by sailing vessels belonging to the Chilian copper smelters, none of which vessels carry the English flag. The little British colony of workers established in this port enjoy, on the whole, exceptional advantages. They are lodged in excellent houses, and receive from £12 to £30 per month, according to their skill, with coal and medical attendance, &c., gratuity. There is a great dearth of hands in the province. The Panulillo, an English limited liability company, have works in the interior of this province (Coquimbo), and employ about 900 hands. Their annual production of copper ore is stated to be 40,000 tons of 5 per cent., while the coal consumed is over 10,000 tons. The La Compania is another establishment in this province, where the quantity of copper in bars produced annually is about 1000 tons, and the

pointed by the chief engineer of a vessel going into commission. In either case his position and duties are the same. He is required to take charge of the engine and fire room watches, under direction of the engineer officers, and must have had before his appointment some experience in running engines of ocean, lake or river steamers.

Enamelled Iron.—M. Peligot has made a report to the Society for the Encouragement of Industry, on the enamelled wrought and cast iron work introduced by M. Paris about twenty-five years ago, and for which the Society have awarded him two medals. According to the report in question, the enamel used is a true transparent glass which allows the color of the iron to show through, very tenacious, having the same power of dilatation as iron, and capable of resisting powerful acids. The ordinary white enamelled ware of Paris generally contains lead, and often in large proportions, and is liable to be attacked by even very weak acids. M. Paris' ware has been employed for many purposes, cast iron vases for gardens, decorated in imitation of old Rouen ware, have been exposed to all weathers without suffering any injury; a chimney in enamelled plate iron was set up at the Maxas prison in 1849; the doors of the gold assay furnace of the laboratory of the Paris mint are of the same, and have borne the effect of nitrous vapours since 1850; in 1866 this enamelled iron was selected for street names and house number plates, in several districts of Paris, and the report states that while other manufacturers make enamelled ware of the same appearance as that of M. Paris, the latter has shown its superiority in resisting the effects of time. Specimens of new applications lately introduced by M. Paris were presented to the Society, and included chairs, tables, and stools for gardens, enamelled on sheet iron and mounted on castings; and stands for dishes, decanters &c., made in imitation of ancient earthenware, but presenting the superior advantage of bearing heat well.

The Foundries and Forges Co., of Besseges and Terre Noire La Voulte, France, have introduced a new and improved furnace and process for the manufacture of metallic alloys. Ores containing tungsten, titanium, or manganese, separately or in any required combination or quartz, all finely pulverized and commingled in suitable proportions, are to be mixed with scraps of cast iron or steel, in a nearly uniform state of division, such as iron filings, iron turnings, or wrought iron, cast iron or steel, granulated or pulverized, or spongy iron, and the whole to be reduced in a special furnace. For the construction of the cupola, very hard fire-brick, containing a large quantity of alumina in their composition, are employed; the bushes being constructed of pure alumina, of magnesia, or of lime; and the crucible or hearth of carbon, lime, or magnesia. When made of carbon, the crucible is constructed in one piece by molding a mixture of tar with pure graphite, gas-coal, or pure coke, in a strong sheet iron box, the whole being well closed up, and heated for a few hours to a dark red heat, whereby a very hard and compact mass is obtained. This looks sufficiently promising, although the merit of originality can scarcely be claimed either for the comminution and commingling of the materials, or for the introduction of tungsten, titanium, or manganese in iron alloys.

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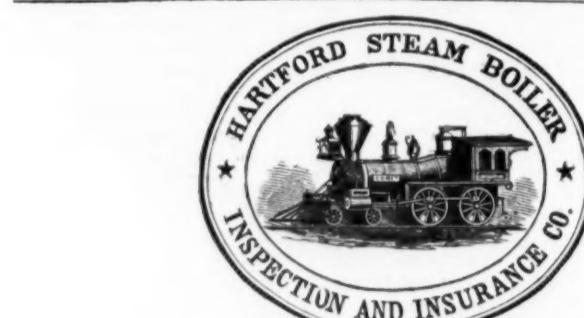
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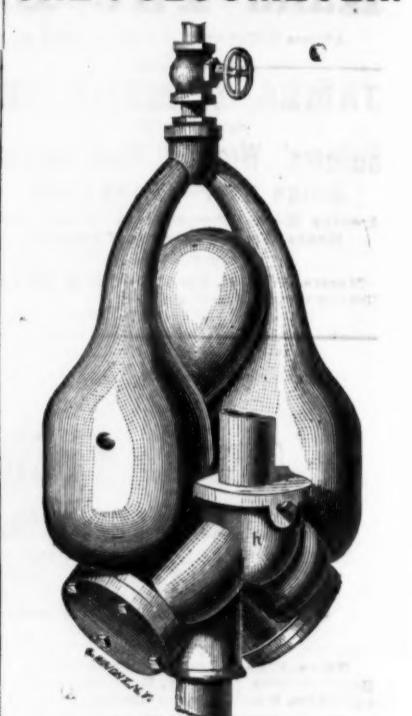
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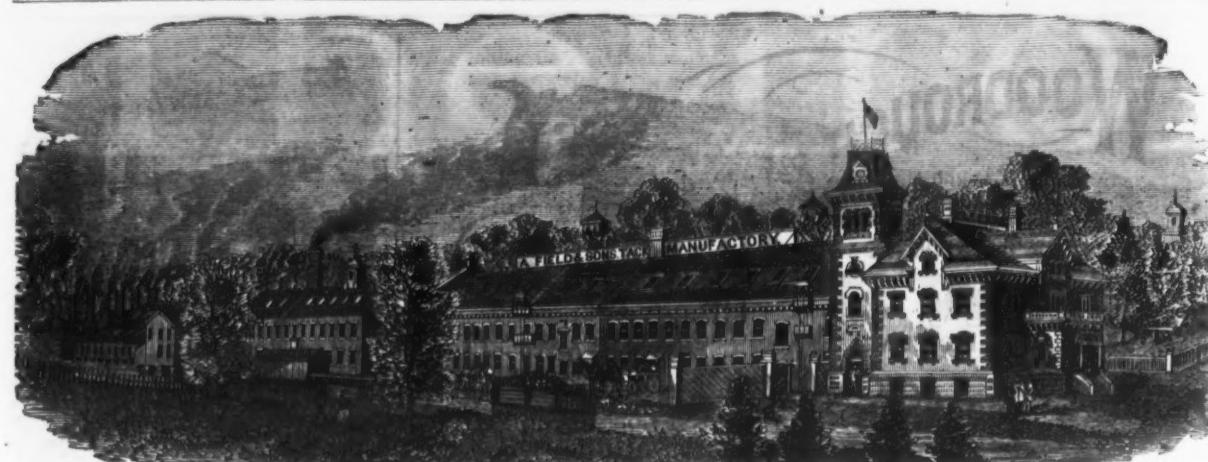
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Messrs. OTIS BROTHERS & CO., New York.

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BUSINESS ITEMS.

NEW YORK.

Alpina Furnace, Lewis County Iron and Mining Company proprietors, Lott Frost, manager, is 32 feet high and 9 feet at boshes; fuel, charcoal; ore, red hematite; capacity, 63 tons per week. The furnace is making a ton of iron with 85 bushels of charcoal, carrying 500 lbs. ore on 12 bushels charcoal.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Jackson & Woodin Mfg. Co. resumed operations on the 29th ult., and have a contract for 400 box cars for the N. Y. Central Railroad. The capacity of the works are 6 cars and 200 wheels per day.

The Keystone Forge, at Bristol, Bucks county, which has been idle so long, is about to be turned into a mill for the manufacture of sheet zinc.

Messrs. Clarke, Reeves & Co., proprietors of the Phenixville Bridge Works, Philadelphia, propose to construct a wrought iron tower, 1000 feet in height, to be completed for the American Centennial Exhibition in 1876. The tower is to be circular in section, 150 feet in diameter at the base, diminishing to 30 feet at the top. It is proposed to have spiral staircases winding around the center tube for those preferring to walk up; but elevators will be provided, which are calculated to ascend to the top in three minutes.

At present, there are orders being filled in Pittsburgh iron works for Belgium, Mexico, New Brunswick and France. The first three are for rolling mill machinery, while the fourth is for steel.

The Lehigh Valley Spike Works, at Allentown, are now running on full time, with a large force of hands.

The new furnace of Knox, Kim & Co., Pittsburgh, which is about to begin operations, is in part an experiment. The chimney is built higher than usual, to get a stronger draft.

According to the Bristol, Bucks county, *Observer*, the arrangements for the establishment of a great iron manufactory in that place are nearly perfected. The company, chartered in New York, is to have a capital of \$1,000,000, with the president's brother, Orville L. Grant, at its head.

The rolling and nail mills of E. & G. Brooke, Birdsboro, Berks county, are in full operation again, after a brief stoppage to put in a new cylinder head.

Rosch's shipyard, at Chester, is crowded with work, giving employment to 1600 hands.

The rail and puddle mills of the Pennsylvania Iron Works, Danville, started in full operation on the 15th ult.

CONNECTICUT.

At Norwich, the Richmond Stove Company's employees have entered upon a reduction of 15 per cent. in their wages.

OHIO.

The Niles Tool Works, of Hamilton, Butler county, with a capital stock of \$200,000, in shares of \$100, have filed a certificate of incorporation.

Gillis' car shops and rolling mill, at Columbus, have suspended operations.

The Girard Furnace, Youngstown, which has been undergoing repairs during the past two months, went into blast a few days since, and is producing about 35 tons per day.

In 1854, Messrs. Long & Allstatter, of Hamilton, began to build reapers, mowers and machine sickles, and at sundry subsequent periods added to their list of manufactures, steel sulky hay rakes, straw cutters, and other agricultural implements, beside a variety of machinists' and manufacturers' tools. As their business increased they added to their original premises a room or a shed, as the exigencies demanded, until they entirely outgrew the facilities afforded by the old site. They were, therefore, compelled to seek out a new location, and purchased, some time ago, ground at the corner of High street and C. H. & D. R. R., on which last summer they erected and now occupy the Hydraulie Iron and Agricultural Works. The premises cover, in the aggregate, a space of 230 by 400 feet, and the buildings comprise a foundry 123 by 50 feet; a smith shop, 48 by 75 feet; stock room, 48 by 80 feet; carpenter shop, 48 by 75 feet; machine shop, of one story and basement, 98 by 156 feet; engine room, 24 by 48 feet; pattern house, two stories, 40 by 60 feet; and a two story and basement wareroom, 144 by 48 feet. They have thus put themselves in a position to very greatly increase their business. They employ at present 150 hands, and throughout the panic they neither turned off nor reduced the wages of any of their employees, but have had to work extra time to keep up with their orders, facts which abundantly testify to the energy and enterprise of the firm, and to the esteem in which their manufactures are held.

The Akron Sewer Pipe Company claims to have the oldest factory of the kind in the country. The works have been added to greatly within the year, and new engines and machinery have been introduced. There are two buildings;

one of frame, three stories, 40 by 140 feet; the other of brick, two stories, 50 by 240 feet; besides kilns, store houses, etc. The works have been manufacturing vitrified clay pipe since 1848, and now do an annual business of \$300,000, employing \$200,000 capital, and using 15,000 tons of raw clay yearly. The monthly pay roll is \$3000 to \$5000 to 75 hands.

The Cuyahoga Falls Wire Works will soon be ready to begin manufacturing. Messrs. Stoney, Chambers & Macbeth, proprietors of the Eclipse Iron Works, at Cleveland, are manufacturing rolling mill, car, bridge and builders' castings. They also make patterns of all kinds to order. Their works are in successful operation, and the concern has large orders ahead.

The Jefferson Iron Works, at Steubenville, are running double turn, producing a good quality of nails. This establishment consists of 22 boiling and 3 heating furnaces, a squeezer, one train 22 inch muck rolls, and a nail mill, in which are 90 machines, that turn out 3500 kegs per week of nails, ¾ to 7 inches in length.

ILLINOIS.

The Excelsior Iron Works, Chicago, owned by Carlile, Mason & Co., turns out annually \$40,000 worth of marine and stationary engines, grain elevators, pumps, oil purses, quartz crushers, boilers, tanks, smoke pipes, blast furnaces, gas and water valves, etc. The average number of hands employed is 160.

The Chicago Times boasts of the growth of that city in manufacturing industry, the capital in which increased, according to its statement, 707 per cent. from 1860 to 1870, against 212 per cent. in New York, and 238 per cent. in Philadelphia.

The U. S. Brick Machine Works, at Chicago, employ 150 men, on an average. Annual product about \$1,500,000.

The Steam Motor Works, at Farrington, are to increase the number of its employees to fifty.

The Union Foundry, Chicago, when running full, employs 430 hands, and produces \$1,500,000 worth of work annually. All the iron work for the new Chicago custom house and post office will come from this establishment. The base-met iron work is already in place, and the iron columns for the first story are now being completed. There will be ninety of these columns, 22 inches in diameter, 30 feet in length, and 15,000 to 16,000 pounds in weight each.

KENTUCKY.

E. M. Norton, President of the great Norton Iron Works, at Ashland, estimates that the mill will turn out about 500 kegs of nails a day, beside making pig iron from the rich ore near by. Over 400 operatives will be employed.

TENNESSEE.

The Nashville *Journal of Commerce* says: The Roane Iron Company, of Chattanooga, have resumed operations, and have just ordered from the Tennessee Coal Company ten cars of coal per day. The Tennessee Coal Company is also supplying, as usual, the Scofield Iron Mill, at Atlanta, Ga.

WISCONSIN.

The Green Bay Iron Furnace did an excellent month's work in November, turning out 546 tons of pig iron, which makes an average of about eighteen and a half tons per day.

VIRGINIA.

At Clifton Forge, on the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, a Mr. Fisher is erecting a blast furnace of medium capacity. It will use hematite ore and splint coal from West Virginia for fuel. A Mr. Cook is erecting a similar furnace about five miles below.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Lancaster Furnace, situated seven miles east of Grafton, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, will go into blast in the spring. The height of the stack is 60 feet, the outside diameter at the bushes is 15½ feet, and it has a closed top.

The Belmont Iron Works, Wheeling, are running double turn, turning out 5000 kegs nails per week. The buildings cover about 43½ acres. The mill contains 22 boiling and 3 heating furnaces, a train of 22 inch muck rolls, a nail plate mill and 110 nail machines, the entire works giving employment to 500 hands, who are paid in full in cash every two weeks. The works are owned by a stock company, of which Messrs. H. Wood is president, J. D. Dubois, vice president, and Messrs. Reisher & Burke, managers. Their blast furnace will soon be completed.

The new Aetna Mill, opposite Wheeling, was in operation on the 15th ult., to test the engine, forge and muck train. Everything worked satisfactorily. The works contain three trains of rolls, muck train, sheet and bar mill, and will manufacture merchant iron, and rails from 8 to 40 lbs. to the yard. The Aetna Works are owned by a stock company, and from the character of the gentlemen composing the executive board, will prove a good investment for the stockholders. Mr. W. W. Halloway is president, Mr. W. H. Tallman, secretary, and Mr. Lewis Jones, a gentleman of large experience in the iron business, manager.

ALABAMA.

The Tecumseh Iron Co. is located at Tecumseh, Ala., instead of in Georgia, as stated in our items a few weeks since. The furnace is a hot blast charcoal furnace, 60x12 feet, with iron stack, and lining of 16-inch Sciotoville, O., fire tile, and hearth of Mt. Savage 18-inch fire tile. Fire brick in bottom 3 feet deep and 3 feet thick on sides, with water jacket all round. The steam cylinder is 36x48, with blowing cylinder 48x54. They have four boilers, 50 ft. by 40 in., and hot blast of 48 pipes, both boilers and hot blast being constructed in two batteries, so that in case of accident they can run with either battery, while repairing the other. They use a steam hoist. Their ore is brown hematite, analyzes 60 per cent., by Britton, of Philadelphia, and limestone, by same analysis, 35 per cent. carbonate of lime. The ore and limestone are within 400 yards of the furnace in unlimited quantities, and contracts have been made for a year, for mining the same for \$2.25 per ton of pig iron made, the contractor to roast and screen. A branch road, 1½ miles long, built and owned by the company, and connecting with the Selma, Rome and Dalton Railroad, runs in front of casting house, 75 feet distant, with bank or surface of

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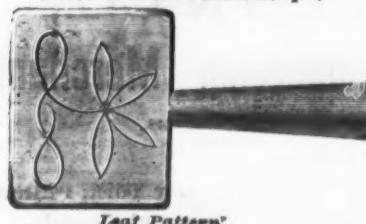
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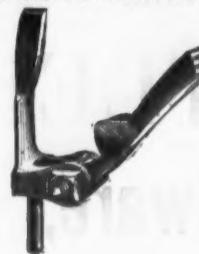


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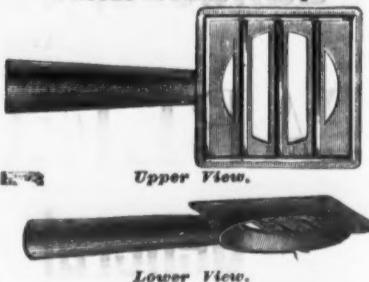
No. 6 Fifth Wheels.



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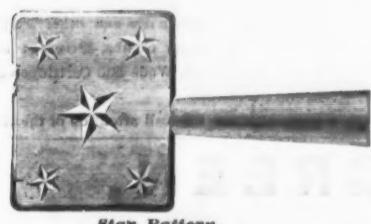


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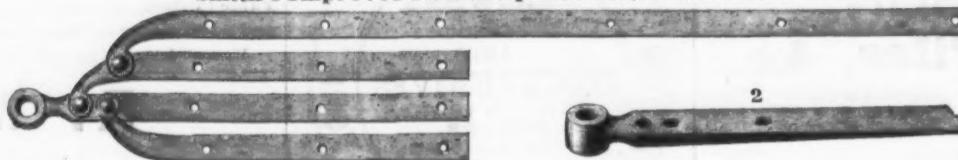
Upper View.

Lower View.



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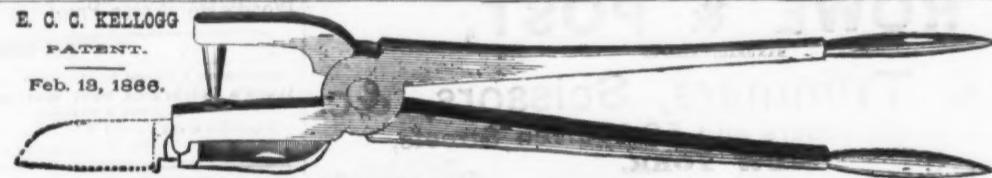
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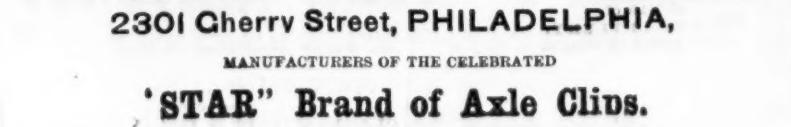
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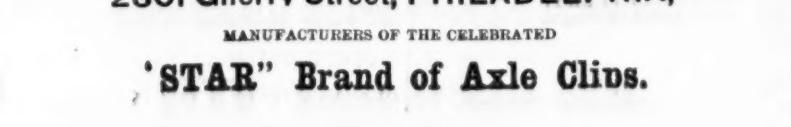
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The Iron Age Directory

and Index to Advertisements.

PAGE.
Agricultural Steels and Irons, etc., Makers of...
Nells, A. J. & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa. 32

Anvils, Manufacturers of...
Fisher & Norris, Trenton, N.J. 15

Agers, Elmira Nobles Mfg. Co., Elmira, N.Y. 33

Angers, Bits, etc., Manufacturers of...
Shattuck W. F. & Co., 13 Chambers, N.Y. 8

Axes, Springs, etc., Manufacturers of...
Clark, Smith & Co., Fox Plain, N.Y. 12

Hotchkiss Guy C. & Field, Brooklyn, E.D. 12

Wentworth H. M. & Co., Gardner, Mass. 12

Band Saw Machines, Makers of...
Richards, Louder & Kelley, Phila. 31

Band Saws and Tools for Brazing &c., Importers of...
Guenther, George, 39 W. 4th, N.Y. 10

Beltows, Manufacturers of...
Churchyard, Joseph, Buffalo, N.Y. 6

Newcomb Bros.' Sons, 386 Water, N.Y. 31

Belting, Leather, Makers of...
Alexander Bros., 412 N. 3d, Phila. 10

Bradford & Sharp, Cincinnati, O. 10

Belt Punches, Manufacturers of...
The Lowel Wrench Co., Worcester, Mass. 12

Kellogg E. C. & Co., Hartford, Conn. 12

Bird Cages, Makers of...
Lindeman O. & Co., 254 Pearl, N.Y. 14

Maxfield John, 249 Pearl, N.Y. 19

Bit Braces, Manufacturers of...
Miller's Falls Mig. Co., 29 Beckman, N.Y. 13

Bolts—Steam...
Verner Thos. 30th and Chestnut, Phila. 31

Bolt Heading Machines, Manufacturers of...
Chapin Machine Co., New Hartford, Conn. 13

Plumb, Burdick & Barnard, Buffalo, N.Y. 32

Braes, Manufacturers of...
Ansonia Brass and Copper Co., 19 Cliff, N.Y. 2

Benedict & Hanover Mig. Co., Waterbury, Conn. 2

Coe Brass Mfg. Co., Wolcottville, Conn. 2

Plume & Atwood Mfg. Co., 90 Chambers, N.Y. 2

Scovill Mfg. Co., 4 Beckman, N.Y. 3

Waterbury Brass Co., 32 Beckman, N.Y. 2

Brick Presses, Makers of...
Carnell Geo., 1819 Germantown Ave., Phila. 13

Carnell F. L. & D. R., 1844 Germantown Ave., Phila. 13

Bridge Builders...
Moseley Iron Bridge and Roof Co., 5 Dey, N.Y. 4

Butcher and Shoe Knives, Manufacturers of...
Wilson John, Sheffield, England. 11

Butts and Hinges, Makers of...
American Butt Co., Providence, R.I. 30

American Spiral Spring Butt Co., 27 Park Row, N.Y. 32

Atma Nut Co., Southington, Conn. 14

Cooke & Co., 163 Mulberry, N.Y. 3

McKinney Mfg. Co., Hamilton, O. 18

Rox & Co., West Troy, N.Y. 11

Stanley Works 88 Beckman, N.Y. 14

Union Mfg. Co., 55 Chambers, N.Y. 7

Waterbury Brass Co., 32 Beckman, N.Y. 2

Brick Presses, Makers of...
Carnell Geo., 1819 Germantown Ave., Phila. 13

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American Butt Co., Providence, R.I. 30

American Spiral Spring Butt Co., 27 Park Row, N.Y. 32

Atma Nut Co., Southington, Conn. 14

Cooke & Co., 163 Mulberry, N.Y. 3

McKinney Mfg. Co., Hamilton, O. 18

Rox & Co., West Troy, N.Y. 11

Stanley Works 88 Beckman, N.Y. 14

The Wetherald Novelty Co., Wetherald, Ct. 26

Turner Seymour & Judds, 64 Duane, N.Y. 26

Union Mfg. Co., 55 Chambers, N.Y. 7

Woodruff Iron Works, 123 Warren, N.Y. 26

Wilson Mfg. Co., 37 Chambers, N.Y. 26

Brake Specialties, Makers of...
Biddle Mfg. Co., 78 Chambers, N.Y. 27

Enterprise Mfg. Co., Phila. 27

Hart, Bliven & Mead Mfg. Co., 245 Pearl, N.Y. 26

Kingsbury, F. & Co., Troy, N.Y. 26

Lane, Gates & Co., 200 Pearl, N.Y. 26

Middleton Tool Co., 55 Chambers, N.Y. 27

Miller's Falls Mfg. Co., 28 Beckman, N.Y. 27

Providence Tool Co., 11 Warren, N.Y. 26

Russell & Erwin Mfg. Co., 45 Chambers, N.Y. 26

Schweitzer Mfg. Co., St. Heade, N.Y. 26

Stanley Works 88 Beckman, N.Y. 26

The Wetherald Novelty Co., Wetherald, Ct. 26

Turner Seymour & Judds, 64 Duane, N.Y. 26

Union Mfg. Co., 55 Chambers, N.Y. 7

Woodruff Iron Works, 123 Warren, N.Y. 26

Wilson Mfg. Co., 37 Chambers, N.Y. 26

Buckle, Fray & Clark, 25 Broadwater, N.Y. 11

Carriage Bolts, Makers of...
Skellie, Wilson & Hubbard, Phila. 12

Townsend, Wilson & Hubbard, Phila. 12

Carriage Hardware, Makers of...
Smita R. D. & Co., Plantville, Ct. 12

Car Wheel, etc., Manufacturers of...
Jackson & Woodin Mfg. Co., Berwick, Pa. 4

Taylor Iron Works, High Bridge, N.J. 12

Chains, Makers of...
Cain, Gordon, Jr., 1850 Richmond, Phila. 4

Kearny, Rankin, Trenton, N.J. 4

Watt Thos. 71 Eddy, Providence, R.I. 4

Chisels, Manufacturers of...
Buck Bros., Millbury, Mass. 21

Clothes Wringers, Manufacturers of...
Providence Tool Co., 11 Warren, N.Y. 4

Coat, Miners of...
Pardee A. & Co., 11 Broadway, N.Y. 6

Coal Hods, Manufacturers of...
Easterbrook & Son, 100 Pearl, N.Y. 23

Oxford Coal Hod Co., 47 E. Front, Cincinnati, O. 24

Oil Burns, Manufacturers of...
Burns & Son, 100 Pearl, N.Y. 24

Coffee and Spice Mills, Lane Brothers, Millbrook, N.Y. 14

Enterprise Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa. 14

Coif Trimmings, Makers of...
Wayne Hardware Co., Cincinnati, O. 2

Commission Merchants, English, Goddard Samuels & Co., Birmingham, Eng. 12

Companies and Dividers, Manufacturers of...
Bent & Cal Hardw. & Tool Co., Springfield, Mass. 19

Copper Tools, etc., Dealers in...
Little Chas. E., 59 Fulton, N.Y. 4

Corrugated Stove Pipe Elbows, Makers of...
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Dickinson Hosiery, 66 & Readie, N.Y. 26

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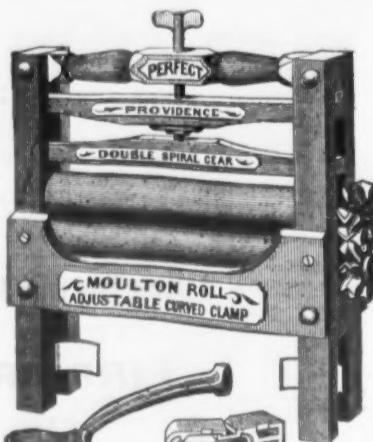
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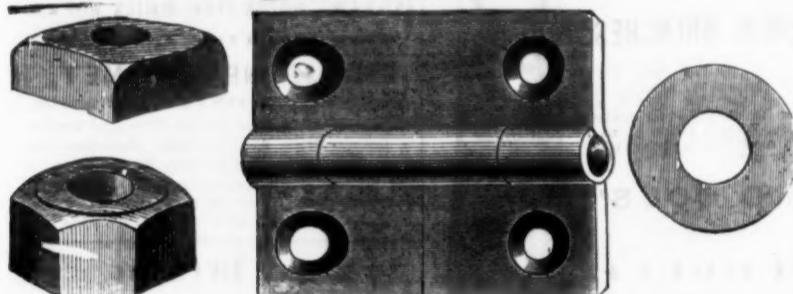
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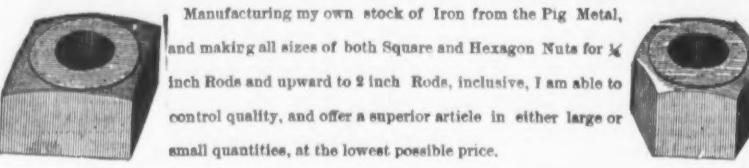
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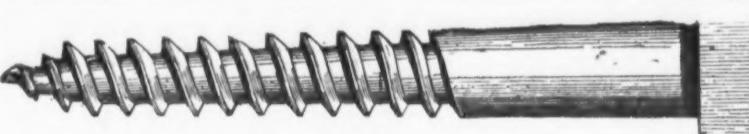
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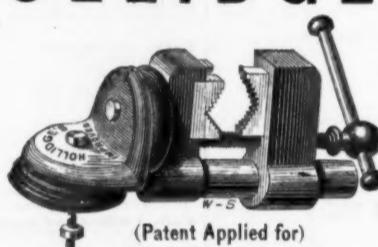
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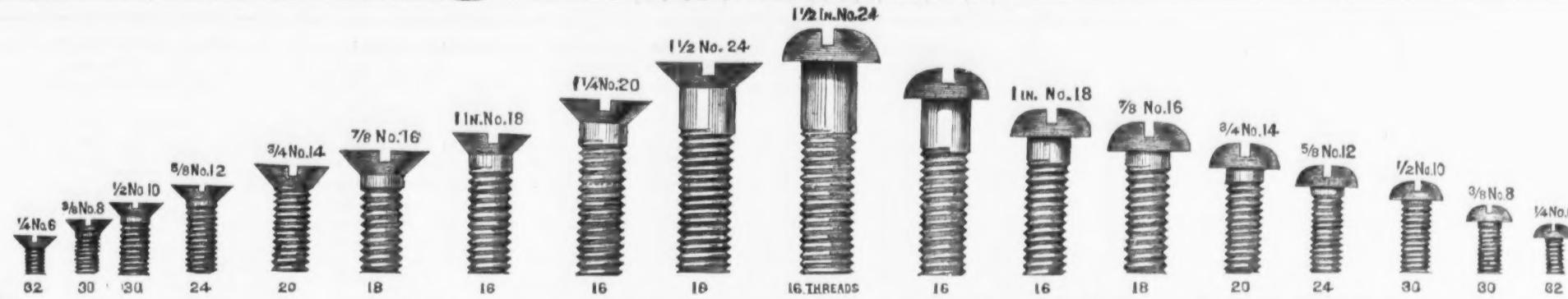
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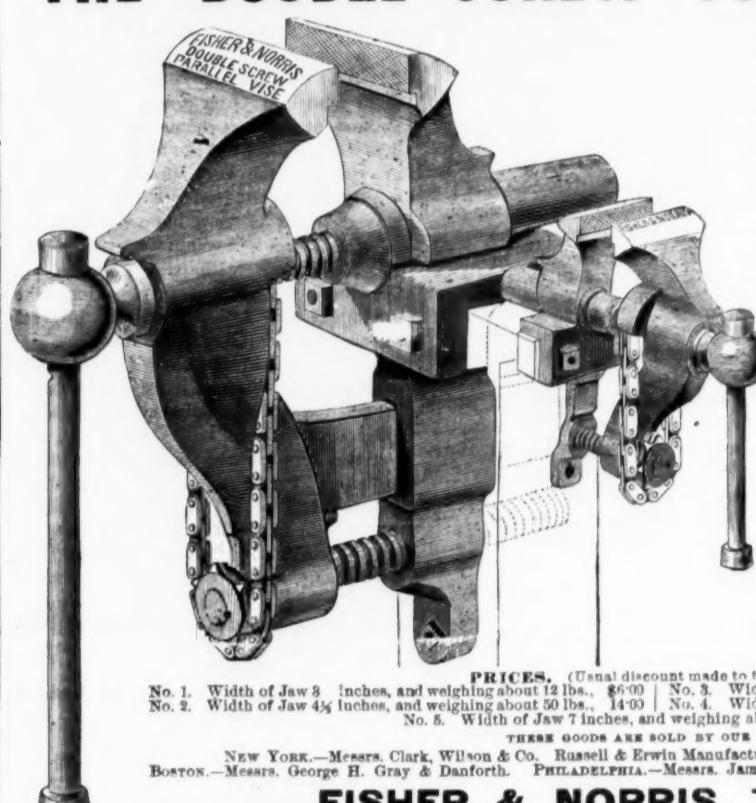
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New York, Thursday, January 8, 1874.

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CONTENTS.

First Page.—Silliman's Gang Band Saw Mill. Molecular Changes in Iron. A new Blast Furnace in Philadelphia.

Third Page.—Fire-Proof Flooring and Fire-Proof Construction. Important Sale of Coal Lands.

Fifth Page.—The Robinson System of Electric Railway Signaling. The New Alloy—Phosphor Bronze. Action of Water upon Lead Pipes.

Seventh Page.—Correspondence. The Selden Patent Copper Smelting in Chili. Machinists in the Navy. Enamelled Iron.

Ninth Page.—Business Items.

Thirteenth Page.—The Iron Age Directory.

Fourteenth Page.—The Business Outlook. The Facts about Lake Superior Tin. Protection Against Losses from Sudden Strikes. Begin at Home. New Publications.

Seventeenth Page.—Scientific and Technical Notes. Philadelphia Correspondence. Blast Furnace Operations in 1873.

Nineteenth Page.—Trade Report.

Nineteenth Page.—Trade Report (concluded). Our English Letter.

Twentieth Page.—Our English Letter (concluded). London Metal Market.

Twenty-second Page.—New York Wholesale Prices of Hardware and Metals.

Twenty-third Page.—New York Wholesale Prices (concluded).

Twenty-fourth Page.—Philadelphia, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Cincinnati Hardware and Metal Prices.

Twenty-ninth Page.—Chicago, Boston, and St. Louis, Hardware and Metal Prices.

The Business Outlook.

There is much cause to congratulate our readers upon the business outlook for the new year. The comparative lightness of the fall trade has been, to some extent, made up by the subsequent purchases of dealers whose stocks needed replenishing, but everything is favorable to an early, active and profitable spring trade, and manufacturers are already making extensive preparations to meet the probable demands upon them. Comparatively few of the workshops and factories temporarily closed during the panic are still idle, and the working classes have suffered much less from the industrial paralysis than was expected. It is, perhaps, a little too soon to feel the change of the tide which turned with the new year, but every indication is favorable, and we know of no cause, unless it be some unwise and hurtful action on the part of Congress, that can disappoint the business promise of the opening season.

One important consideration, as affecting the future business, which we do not think is generally taken into account, is the fact that there is no longer any apprehension of coming financial disaster. For several years past far-sighted and prudent merchants have anticipated a panic, and for two or three years it has been evident that the trouble would begin with the collapse of the speculative railroad construction bubble. No one has known when to expect the coming panic, but the class of croakers, who always keep themselves in a position to say, "I told you so," when anything serious happens, have been predicting it ever since the close of the war. These predictions have not been without influence in making careful and conservative men timid and apprehensive of the future. This fear is now set at rest. We have experienced the long-expected "collapse," we have passed through it comparatively unharmed, and experience

teaches us that we are not likely to have another for some years to come. The periods between panics in this country have hitherto averaged seven years in duration, and between the last two a period of about sixteen years intervened. We may, therefore, anticipate an uninterrupted prosperity for several years to come, and with judicious Congressional action on the currency and other questions of vital importance, we should, during the next five years, experience a healthy, sustained and evenly developed material progress. The confidence which this thought inspires is favorable to all branches of business in the immediate future, and with the retail markets in all parts of the country scarcely supplied with stocks of staple goods, manufacturers and wholesalers may reasonably expect to make up during the first quarter of the new year for their losses and disappointments during the last quarter of 1873.

The Facts About Lake Superior Tin.

In this journal of February 20, 1873, there was given, under the title of "A Trip in Search of Tin," a detailed description of what was then believed to be one of the most valuable mineral discoveries ever made on this continent. We refer to the exploring expedition under the auspices of the "Otter Head Consolidated Tin Land Pool," of Detroit, Michigan, to the neighborhood of Otter Head, Canada, on the north shore of Lake Superior. At and around Otter Head, the association named owns nearly 40,000 acres of land. The expedition, which was conducted by, and almost wholly composed of, members who had invested money in the "Pool," left the Sault Ste. Marie Canal at daylight of November 22, 1872, and reached Marquette, Michigan, at noon of the 25th of that month, having inspected parts of the tin ground. The examining party seemed entirely satisfied with the results of their expedition, and when they reached Detroit—the first place at which they could obtain the necessary chemicals—they immediately proceeded to make exhaustive analyses of the ore specimens they had brought from the veins examined on November 24th. A gentleman who, at the earnest solicitation of a member of the "Pool," accompanied the exploring party, wrote the account of the trip which appeared in this journal. He never at any time owned any of the stock, and his letter which we published was based—so far as statements about the discovery were concerned—on the official report of Hon. William Harris, a member of the Michigan legislature and a man whose opinions on tin ore are highly valued, for the reason that he was for fifteen years a tin-miner in Cornwall, England; and on the official report of Mr. A. F. Jennings, who was at that time the metallurgical chemist of the "Detroit Mineralogical, Mining and Assaying Association." As far back as December 29, 1871, the late Professor Torrey had officially reported that he had "assayed the sample of tin ore from the north side of Lake Superior;" that "the ore is a true tin stone, or Cassiterite;" that "the average of the samples yielded 33 3 per cent. of metallic tin," and that "it would be easy to concentrate the pulverized mineral to a considerably higher percentage of metal." Mr. Jennings, in his more elaborate report—in the course of which, by the way, he takes occasion to commend in very high terms the report of Mr. Harris—gave the "average of four assays" of this Otter Head tin ore as being "37 per cent." Messrs. Drown and Corliss, the well known metallurgical chemists of Philadelphia, under date of January 25, 1873, officially reported that they had "examined the tin ore from Otter Head, Lake Superior," and had found the "mean of two analyses" to be "47 93 per cent."

There were other considerations bearing on the subject which were conversationally discussed by the experts between the date of their exploration and that of the publication of the first official report, and the unanimous conclusion was that the Otter Head property was second in value to none other in the world. Ten millions of dollars was named as a cheap price for land the total cost of which did not exceed \$55,000. The gentleman whose letter we published, waited three months before writing his account, to the end that he might embody therein the results of the official reports. These reports created great excitement in mining and financial circles, and it did not abate until last June, when the faith of investors began to falter. During that month another expedition went to Otter Head, and remained two weeks or more. It returned with the report that even the existence of tin there in paying quantities was extremely doubtful. But there were still left persons who were determined to cherish the hope of enormous wealth, and they shortly afterward organized another expedition, which was more thorough in its examination of the Otter Head lands than

any other had been, and which was probably the last that will ever visit that shore of illusion. These last named parties returned with a report to the effect that, in a few spots, the outcroppings of veins showed a resemblance to tin ore, but that the yield of these veins would evidently be less than one-half of one per cent. of metal; and that in regard to the principal vein examined on November 24, 1873, the experts of the exploring party were either willfully fraudulent in their representations, or else the victims of a swindle which, for magnitude and effrontery, has never been surpassed. This last party reported that they had found, buried in the earth remote from the principal vein, a number of kegs—some empty and some unbroken—of tin ore, which was absolutely similar in appearance and yield to that taken from the vein; that the vein itself had been packed or "salted" with ore from the kegs found empty, and that some persons in the party claimed to be able to identify the said kegs as having been transhipped at the Sault Canal from an American to a Canadian steamer, and landed at Otter Head in October, 1872. These persons also claimed that the kegs were duly entered at the New York Custom House, and that they came from Liverpool by steamer. The unearthing of these kegs created in some minds and confirmed in others the conviction that a colossal fraud had been attempted by some one, and the man charged with having attempted it admitted that he knew of the kegs having been taken there, but that his purpose in permitting them to be taken to Otter Head was to place himself in a position to prove the property worthless, if his associates did not allow the rights in the tin lands for which he contended. He confessed that the vein above referred to had been "salted" from the kegs, but maintained that there are other tin veins equally rich and of natural formation on the lands. The last expedition, however, found no trace of them.

The facts in regard to these kegs are as follows: A person whom we could name went to Liverpool in the steamer City of Montreal in May or June, 1872. Repeated interrogatories by a director of the "Pool" failed to discover the purpose of his errand; and among his intimate friends none knew of any business he could possibly have in Europe on his own account. It has long been authoritatively reported, and the report is now firmly believed by many stockholders, that this person returned from England between the middle of September and the middle of October, 1872, that the kegs were entered through the New York Custom House in his name at the time of his return, and that he accompanied them from New York at least as far as the canal, where they were transferred to the Canadian steamer which put them ashore at Otter Cove. He is not obliged, of course, to state what his business was in Europe at the time named; but in view of the very strong suspicions against him as the leader of the "salting" movement, it is very important for his reputation that he explain wherein he had no connection with the purchase in Cornwall, the ocean transportation, the Custom House entry here, and the internal shipment and delivery of the ore kegs.

It is not a matter of surprise that many persons more than usually expert were deceived by the tin bubble. Messrs. Jennings, Drown and Corliss had only to analyze the samples sent them, and in doing so their responsibility ceased. The same is true of Prof. Torrey, and we believe that no one doubts the entire honesty of Mr. Harris in this matter. But whoever is to blame, Otter Head will long be remembered by the unfortunate investors and their heirs as a land of fictitious treasures and buried hopes.

Protection Against Losses from Sudden Strikes.

The recent strike of the locomotive engineers, resulting in a serious interruption of travel and traffic, and in danger to life and property, furnishes a basis for the only good argument which we know of in favor of the enactment of a national code of laws for the regulation of railroad management. For open and flagrant violations of the common law of which the strikers may have been guilty, especially in the West, the State governments are competent to prescribe and enforce adequate penalties. To obstruct the passage of a train, misplace a switch, assault a peaceable citizen for doing his duty, or put in peril the lives and limbs of persons without just provocation, are crimes which call for severe penalties under existing laws. If these laws are not enforced, the fault lies with the local authorities. Not so, however, with a peaceful strike. To refuse to work is not a violation of any law, and under no laws of which we have any knowledge can engineers or other railroad servants be held accountable for simply quitting their posts, singly or in a body. But the public interest

demands that they should be restrained from so doing except upon giving their employers sufficient notice to enable them to fill their places. In a country dependent for much of its commercial and industrial prosperity upon free and unrestricted interchange by rail between the States, it is of the utmost importance that the danger of a general strike of responsible railroad servants should be averted by the enactment of a law prescribing adequate penalties for quitting work without just cause, and without notice to employers. Such a law, to be practically operative as regards roads traversing two or more States, must be national in its character, and while we deplore Congressional interference with matters coming under the jurisdiction of the State legislatures, we cannot but think that an Act of Congress for the protection of the traveling and business public against interruptions of railroad operations resulting from strikes of railroad employees, would be of national benefit.

The importance of defining, clearly and unmistakably, the relations between employers and servants, by means of impartial and well considered general laws, has not been as fully appreciated in this country as it should have been. Since the trade unions have acquired so much power for mischief, laws generally similar to the Masters' and Servants' Act of Great Britain have become necessary in every State depending upon manufacturing for its prosperity. Under the present system an employer may lose his entire working force without an hour's notice, often because an order for the immediate cessation of work comes to his men from some irresponsible committee or junta, possessing no authority which is recognized by the law. We have known of instances in which puddlers have thrown down their tools and gone off, leaving heats to spoil in the furnaces and entailing upon their employers serious losses for iron wasted and costly repairs rendered necessary. Hundreds of cases have come to our notice in which men have struck without warning, leaving work unfinished which their employers were under contract to complete within a given time, and bankrupting such as had locked up their capital in work already done. These are matters of common occurrence in ordinarily prosperous times, and employers are certainly entitled to some protection against outrages of this character. A well considered law, making all contracts between masters and men binding upon both until after the expiration of a ten days' notice, would do no one injustice, and would protect the workingmen from arbitrary and peremptory dismissal without cause, as well as employers from losses resulting from strikes without notice. There is no reason why a puddler who throws down his tools and leaves his furnace charged, should not be made to pay his employer damages for the loss of the iron and injury of the furnace, and no reason why an employer who suddenly deprives a man of his situation without just cause, should not be required to pay him wages until he shall have had opportunity to seek employment elsewhere. We would offer these suggestions to manufacturers and employers generally, as showing the importance of an effort on their part to secure the passage of laws by the legislatures of their respective States for their own protection and the protection of labor. We shall have more to say upon this subject in a future issue.

An Iron Trades Congress, embracing all branches of the iron industry, will convene at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, on the 5th of February, and continue in session two days. The pig, bar, plate, nail, rail and steel interests will be represented, and it is expected there will be a free interchange and comparison of ideas on all subjects of interest to iron manufacturers. We hope the congress will be well attended by representative men, and that associations in all parts of the country will send delegations. The subjects discussed will undoubtedly be of present and permanent interest, and an effort will probably be made to crystallize the various trade associations into one common organization, with as many sections as may be desirable. This would establish a national iron exchange, and the benefits of such an institution would be felt in all branches of the trade.

We understand that the representatives of the sewing machine interest are about to make another vigorous effort to secure the passage of an Act of Congress granting a further extension of the patents under which the business has been made a great monopoly. If so, we certainly hope they will fail to accomplish their purposes. We have had about as much of this extension business in the case of sewing machine patents as we consider beneficial, and if the business were thrown open to all who might choose to enter it, no one owning or interested in patents which have legitimately ex-

pried would have any just grounds for complaint. Companies which make machines for twelve dollars and sell them for sixty-five, naturally desire to keep the business a close monopoly as long as they can, but the public have some rights in this matter which are entitled to consideration at Washington.

Begin at Home.

The New York Cheap Transportation Association propose to send delegates to a meeting to be held at Washington, on the 14th inst., to draw up and talk over a petition to Congress calling for certain necessary reforms, among others the repeal of the law requiring canal boats to pay tonnage dues. It is probable they will also talk over some scheme for a national railroad between New York and the West, and perhaps ask Congress to build such a road. This is all well enough, in its way, especially as regards the effort to secure the exemption of canal boats from the tonnage tax, but before spending much of either time or money in the vague hope of reforming national evils, would it not be well for the friends of cheap transportation in New York to begin at home and reform certain abuses which are peculiarly local in their character? For example, the commercial interests of New York would be promoted more by providing facilities for the cheap and expeditious handling, transfer and storage of merchandise, than by the building of a dozen new railroads to the West. It costs more to cart a barrel of flour from the North River to the East than it does to bring it to the North River from Buffalo. Here is an evil to reform, and it cannot be too soon taken in hand. Again, it costs more to bring a case of linen goods from Jersey City to the warehouse of the merchant that sells it, including custom-house charges, but not including duties, than to bring it from the manufactory in Ireland to Liverpool or other port and ship it to Jersey City by steamer. As an instance of the cost attending our present system of receiving and handling merchandise, we may mention, on good authority, that the business coming to the Pavonia Ferry Company on account of the White Star Line of steamers, is over a thousand dollars a month. A very large part of this represents a tax upon merchandise and trucks.

We might multiply instances of this kind, but it is scarcely necessary to do so. Our merchants are familiar with our present cartage and storage system, they have suffered for years from the rapacity of custom house and quarantine officials, they have borne without complaint or remonstrance the discriminations of existing railroads against New York in the matter of freights, and if they want reform the place to begin it is here. When we have done all within our power to cheapen transportation it will be time enough to ask Congress to provide a new rail highway to the West. The Cheap Transportation Association includes many of our most enterprising and influential merchants, and we are well satisfied that any well digested scheme of local transit and storage reform to which they might give approval, would command the hearty support of press and public. Let the experiment be tried, at least.

The transfer of the coal lands belonging to the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, to the Honeybrook Coal Company, and through the latter to the Central Railroad of New Jersey, has, during the last few days, occasioned much comment and not a little wild speculation. The combination of these companies cannot properly be called new, as they have been practically working together for years, and the present arrangement is merely the putting into a practical working shape interests that have been closely allied for a long time. The combination will certainly control the product of a very large and important coal field, but it remains to be seen whether the influence they will bring to bear on the market be other than that hitherto exerted by them. They may join hands with the Reading Coal and Iron Combination, or take an independent position alongside the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; but in either case it is safe to predict that their action will be guided, in a great measure, by the same policy which has, during the last year, kept the coal trade so steady in the midst of panic and violent fluctuation in other branches of business.

New Publications.

NOTES OF A METALLURGICAL JOURNEY IN EUROPE.
By John A. Church. D. Van Nostrand, New York, 1873.
This work, the bulk of which appeared in the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, is evidently the result of careful and intelligent observation, and contains a great amount of accurate and interesting information concerning some fields of labor not hitherto investigated by Americans. The details of mining operations, and smelting and refining processes, with analyses of ores, will be found of great interest to the student of metall

VENTILATION OF BUILDINGS: By W. F. Butler.
PROPORTIONS OF PINS USED IN BRIDGES: By Chas. Bender, C. E. D. Van Nostrand, N. Y., 1873.

These little volumes constitute Nos. 4 and 5 of Van Nostrand's Scientific Series. Mr. Butler's treatise on ventilation is a well considered and valuable contribution to the literature of a subject which is at present engaging the attention of many of the greatest scientific minds in the country.

Mr. Bender's treatise on bridge pins possesses less of popular interest, but presents much valuable and condensed information of a technical nature which merits the careful study of engineering students and practical bridge builders.

Scientific and Technical Notes.

The Engineer describes a

NEW METHOD OF ECONOMIZING FUEL employed at the works of Messrs. Leather, Matthews & Co., engineers, of Broughton Road Iron Works, Salford, as follows:

The other day we had the opportunity of witnessing the effects of using cinders and creosote oil as fuel under the boilers which drive their machinery, and the particulars of which, as kindly furnished to us by a member of the firm, we have now the pleasure of giving to our readers. It may possibly be remarked that the data given can scarcely, as they extend over so short a period, be looked upon as very conclusive, but we may add that we are assured by Messrs. Leather, Matthews & Co. that the economy still continues, and, in point of fact, nothing can be more convincing of the benefit obtained than that a firm of practical engineers should feel themselves amply justified by the financial results of the arrangement in continuing the use of this fuel. The figures given us with reference to the cinders and creosote oil are as follows: In April, 1872, the engine in question was burning 1.9 cwt. of coal at 7 per ton, or 8d. per hour, as cost for running engine; indicated horse-power being 23. From noon on Tuesday, April 22, 1873, to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 29, the same engine, with considerably more load, ran 88½ hours, consuming 59 cwt. of coal and 60 gallons of creosote oil; the cost thus being, per hour, three-quarter gallons oil, 2½d. per gallon, 1½d.; 66 cwt. of coal, at 10d. per cwt., 6½d.—total, 8d. per hour. But the point to be noticed here is that in one case coal was valued at 10d. per cwt., and in the other at something less than 4½d. The best proof of the real saving lies, however, in the fuel cost-book of the firm just named, the figures in which we find as follows: For the six months commencing November, 1872, and ending April, 1873, they paid for coal £100, 11/-; in the six months ending October, 1873, they paid for coal £52, 19.4, and for creosote oil, say, £7, 10/- £60, 9.4, the effective work done by the engine being, on account of extra machinery added to the shop, considerably more during the latter period than the former. These figures speak for themselves; and we can ourselves testify to the fact that neither the grates nor the fire-bars of the boilers have been in any way altered from their original form to suit this fuel, the *modus operandi* being simply to wet the cinders, mix them with wet coal, and then saturate the whole with the oil. At Messrs. Wright, Turner, & Co., Kingston Mills, Pendleton, the manager, Mr. Warburton, has employed the same oil, with, as we understand, favorable results, and he has arranged there a remarkably ingenious cistern and tap, by which the exact quantity of oil found necessary and most advantageous can easily be supplied. The set of boilers to which this adjustment was fixed were unfortunately not at work on the day of our visit, and although Mr. Warburton fully explained his plan to us, we did not see it in actual operation.

The curious property possessed by

CHINESE METAL MIRRORS of reflecting figures put upon the back by way of ornamentation, has long been a matter of wonder to persons ignorant of the reason for the phenomenon. Their manufacture is described as follows:

Chinese mirrors are castings of a somewhat porous alloy. Before the reflecting face is finally polished, it is laid on an anvil, and the embossed designs or figures at the back well hammered. This, of course, condenses and closes the pores of the metal in these parts, and, in consequence, when the face is finally polished, the metal in front of the design has its power of reflecting light increased, and so gives rise to the fallacious idea that the pattern "shines through" the metal. Old coins, in which the letters or dates have become illegible through wear or corrosion, may oftentimes be deciphered by polishing the surface with a wheel-brush and fine emery. The reflected image, in some cases—particularly with bronze coins—will then show the figures distinctly. In a stamped coin these are darker than the rest of the disc, because the raised portions were less condensed. Numismatists have long been aware that when there is a difficulty in deciphering a coin almost obliterated, they can frequently determine its date and character by heating it in the dark to a red heat sufficiently to make it self-luminous; the figures, though worn to the surface, having a different density, throw off more or less light, and can thus be distinguished.

Prof. Gilbert Govi, of Turin, has thoroughly investigated the matter, and come to the conclusion that the part of the mirror which is not in relief at the back is very thin, and consequently, upon pressure being applied when polishing equally all over it, those parts which correspond to the figures are slightly pressed outward, and preserve their prominence upon the pressure being withdrawn. The light striking upon these prominences is naturally more diffusely reflected than that which strikes upon the corresponding depression. Hence the curious appearance of the figures dark upon a bright ground. If a mirror which displays them well (and few do so) be examined between the

eye and the light the slight curve of the surface may be detected, and the phenomenon may be exaggerated by pressing the figures with the hand from behind while holding the mirror up to the sun. Good magic mirrors are extremely scarce, and command a high price. This is owing, in some measure, to the difficulty of obtaining the metal homogeneous, so that when the polisher arrives at the tenacity proper for displaying the figures, the elasticity of the ground of the pattern may be equal all over the surface of the plate.

A praiseworthy movement is now on foot in Paris, which has for its object to provide

CHEAP HOMES AND WORKSHOPS FOR MECHANICS on the following plan: A large plot of ground has been secured in the heart of the workman's quarters of St. Antoine, and now a complete street, containing nineteen large houses, is constructed and bears the name of Rue de l'Industrie St. Antoine, connecting the old Faubourg St. Antoine with the Boulevard Voltaire, formerly Boulevard Prince Eugene. All these houses are combined dwellings and workshops, and the arrangement for light and ventilation, and for the supply of water and gas, have been carefully secured. Each house has its concierge, or porter, as usual in Paris, and it is the business of this functionary to keep the court and staircase of the house clean, to take in letters, and to give generally answers to all inquiries; in addition to this, however, the concierge has a sort of police power with respect to the removal of furniture, the hours of admission, &c. A useful innovation is borrowed from the chambers of London and other places, in the provision in the entrance lobbies for the painting of each lodger's name and business, with the number of his floor and room. The motive power is supplied by a steam engine of 200 horse-power, which, with the shaftings, &c., have been supplied by Messrs. Cail & Co., of Paris. The power is distributed throughout the houses on both sides of the street, in the basement, ground, *entresol*, the first floors, and, if needful, power will be extended to the other parts of the building by means of compressed air, but this is a matter for future consideration; and a patent has been taken out for the future application of the escaped air to ventilation and blowing purposes. The apartments and workshops are not yet all ready to receive their tenants, but the applicants are numerous, and have already more than one hundred and sixty occupants. The principal occupation of the Faubourg is that of furniture and cabinet making, and most of the tenants belong to some branch of those trades, which bring in their train wood turners, fitters, metal workers, and other industries; but there is a host of trades in Paris in which little masters still exist, such as bronze turners and fitters, and the makers of the thousand and one nick-nacks known as *articles de Paris*, and small wares of all kinds. It should have been mentioned that amongst other conveniences is the supply of hot water to each tenant. Another good point about the undertaking is the aspect of the new industrial street, which is pleasant and light, and has none of that penitential, hospital-like appearance which so unpleasantly indicates model lodging-houses in general. Already a baker, a wine shop keeper, and an apothecary have opened their shops there, and baths form a feature in the new street, which is only the first of those which are to form the industrial city of St. Antoine.

The medal *pro litteris et artibus* has been given by the Emperor of Austria to Rev. Malleny Hanson for an ingenious apparatus known as

THE WRITING BALL,

which is described as follows: The instrument consists of a half sphere of gun metal, pierced with radial apertures to the number of 52, all converging to the center. The half-sphere rests on a frame firmly fixed to a bed plate. Portions of the frame can be removed to obtain access to the lower parts of the apparatus. Each of the holes in the half sphere or ball has a piston ground off horizontally at its bottom, upon which is engraved a letter or figure. When a piston has been pressed in, a spiral spring raises it when it has been released. These pistons, when pressed down, impinge upon a level writing plate, which can be moved through the center of the writing ball. This plate has four wheels running upon rails, which rails again are fixed to another movable frame. The plane of the movement of the lower frame is at right angles to that of the upper one. Beneath the upper table is fastened a rack gear with a spur-wheel fixed on to a sleeve on a spindle, upon which it slides by means of a feather and a groove. The spindle at its extremity carries a tooth-wheel and a pinion; the latter gears with a tooth-wheel on the fuse spindle of an ordinary clock spring. Behind the tooth-wheel, attached to the spindle, are arranged two electro-magnets, the armature of which carries an escapement working into the tooth-wheel. The terminals are fixed into the bed-plate. A bell having a hammer moved by a peg on the scape-wheel is attached to the apparatus. The ball or half sphere has a semi-spherical cover, which rests on the ball by insulating pieces of ebony. Springs are so attached to this cover as to form a connection with one pole of the battery when a knob or piston is pressed, the other pole of the battery being connected to the ball itself. Upon the writing table is arranged a kind of tympan to hold a sheet of white paper by its edges. Upon the white paper is laid a sheet of carbonized paper. On pressing one of the knobs the lower end of the piston impresses a type on the paper; the knob then touches the spring under it, whereby electrical contact is established. The electro-magnets then attract the armature, causing a movement of one tooth of the scape-wheel actuated by the clock spring. The motion is consequently communicated to the spindle and to writing table and carriage, which is thus moved into a position suitable for the printing of the next letter. The pistons corresponding to the letters to be printed are depressed in their order, and the letters appear on the paper in a line vertical to the operator. Speed is considerably augmented by the arrangement of the knobs or pistons into groups, easily covered by the whole of the 10 fingers. When a line of printing is completed the hammer strikes the

bell as a signal that a new line should be commenced. This is effected by pushing the carriage of the writing table forward or backward by hand the distance required between the lines. That this distance may not be exceeded and shall be attained, a rack-and-pinion movement is employed. After some practice the pistons can be worked at the rate of ten per second, or three or five times quicker than ordinary writing with a pen. All kinds of paper can be employed, and of any thickness, by means of a vertical adjustment of the writing ball. If 10 pieces of thin paper are employed, with interposed layers of carbonized paper, all 10 pieces receive the same impression. By passing these 10 impressions with interposed tissue paper through rollers, double the number of copies are obtained.

Messrs. Knott, of the Highfield Steel Works and Hoeby Tife Rolling Mills, have lately introduced a plan for

UTILIZING THE WASTE HEAT OF MELTING FURNACES,

which is well spoken of. They have erected in their new works a 24 hole melting furnace, the flues from which pass under and around two 28 feet by 7 feet boilers which are erected near. The waste heat from the melting furnaces is conveyed through these flues to heat the boilers, and sufficient steam is thereby generated to work two trials of sheet and rod rolls. No more fuel is consumed in heating the furnaces than under the old plan, and the machinery of the rolling mill is, therefore, worked without the least cost. The waste heat, when not required for the boilers, can be conveyed away into a waste flue. By this plan the Messrs. Knott hope to save £1000 a year.

TIN IN AUSTRALIA.

Recent advices from Australia warrant the belief that, at no distant day, that island will derive a very much increased commercial importance from its production of tin. In the Kooting field the ore occurs as black, gray, yellow, and red or ruby tin, and is often coated with oxide of iron; small garnets are frequent, and specks of gold are occasionally met with. The ore contains an amount of the varying from a few ounces to several pounds weight to the ton of stuff. Excellent prospects have been obtained over an extensive district in the Kooting field, and the development of tin deposits is looked forward to with confidence as likely to add materially to the industrial wealth of the colony. In the first nine months of 1873, ending September 30th, the imports of Australian tin into England have amounted to about 3520 tons of ore, as against only 200 tons in the corresponding period of 1872. Such an immense increase in the Australian supply must, of course, greatly affect the state of the market; and it would have affected it more powerfully if the supply of the Straits and Cornish tin had not this year so largely decreased. The imports of Straits were only 3496 tons, as against 5205 tons in the first nine months of 1872, showing a diminished supply of 1759 tons. There is also a falling off in the amount of Cornish tin produced, but not enough to balance the large supplies from Australia. Prices are down, because this increase comes just at the time when demand has fallen off. In the first nine months of 1873 the total deliveries from London and Holland of foreign tin, including Banca, Billiton, Straits and Australian, amounted to no more than 7917 tons, as against 9409 tons in the corresponding months of last year, showing a decrease in the deliveries of about 1500 tons.

Some time ago a bill was introduced in the National Assembly regulating the manufacture of

DYNAMITE IN FRANCE,

and giving the government a monopoly of the business, as it now has of the manufacture of gunpowder. The matter was referred to a committee, which have extended their inquiries into all the financial and commercial points of discussion, weighing the advantages and disadvantages that might respectively arise, from either giving the government a monopoly, or by throwing its manufacture and import open. The general conclusions to which they arrived were as follows: 1. They considered that the law regulating the production, &c., of gunpowder should not be extended beyond the limits allowed by that law. 2. That nitro-glycerine, of which dynamite is a modification, has none of those chemical elements nor composition which readily distinguish gunpowder. 3. That it is necessary to construct a special law, regulating the industrial uses of certain chemical explosive compounds; and not giving a monopoly of their manufacture to the state. Other provisions would tend to facilitate the general use of dynamite, &c. The law laid out by the commission, in place of that suggested by the Minister of Finance, proposes to establish a tax on dynamite and other explosives employed for industrial purposes, not named in the law regulating the manufacture, &c., of gunpowder. The tax proposed is 1 franc 50 cents per kilogramme of dynamite. The manufacturers are to be subject to the law which regulates dangerous manufactures. Licenses may be obtained on certain conditions for the manufacture and use of nitro-glycerine, also for the production of dynamite, and other explosive substances. The tax on nitro-glycerine and other explosive compounds, fixed at 2 francs per kilogramme, and that on the importation of dynamite at the same amount, by the report of the commission, as at once likely to be productive to the national finances, and not affecting commercial interests injuriously.

PHILADELPHIA CORRESPONDENCE.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 5, 1874.

The first week in the new year, although split by a holiday, has offered so much of general and local interest, that in order to include all the items the allusion to each must be literally "brief mention."

The interference with business by the strike of the locomotive engineers of the Western roads has been an exciting topic of discussion, coupled as it was by an expected strike on the main line and the New Jersey division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Fortunately this was avoided, but, had it occurred, would have caused both great inconvenience and damage to the public. There are three thousand men employed on the New Jersey division of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and fifteen trains are run daily between here and New York, besides freights. Seven thousand through passengers, it is computed, use the road daily, while the local travel is many times that number.

There is something to be said, and more to be done, about this strike, and the results of it, which exposed life and property to damage at the West, if not here. The broad assertion can be, and must be made, that all such strikes are criminal—crimes against society—and outrages on the body politic. The fact that the company has a right to decide what it shall pay for services rendered, and the men to fix the price of their labor, is outside the question. Neither or both have any greater right to quarrel at the expense of the public than two disputing hack-

Blast Furnace Operations in 1873.

The following is a recapitulation of the blast furnaces of the United States in 1873, compiled by Mr. James M. Swank, Secretary of the American Iron and Steel Association. Corrected to January 1, 1874:

STATES.	Whole No. of completely completed in 1872.	No. of stacks completed in 1873.	Building or Power'd in 1873.
Maine.....	Charcoal	1	...
Vermont.....	Charcoal	5	...
Massachusetts.....	Charcoal	1	...
Connecticut.....	Anthracite	10	1
New York.....	Charcoal	34	1
New Jersey.....	Anthracite	13	2
	Lehigh Schuykill	47	3
Pennsylvania.....	Anthracite	26	3
	Upper Susquehanna	37	4
	Lower Susquehanna	31	2
	Bituminous Coal & Coke	42	4
	Charcoal	29	1
Maryland.....	Anthracite	11	1
	Bituminous Coal and Coke	51	2
Virginia.....	Anthracite	1	1
	Bituminous Coal and Coke	2	1
West Virginia.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	20	1
Kentucky.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	3	1
Tennessee.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	19	2
North Carolina.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	9	3
South Carolina.....	Charcoal	2	1
Georgia.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	5	2
Alabama.....	Charcoal	19	3
Texas.....	Charcoal	1	1
Ohio.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	28	1
Indiana.....	Bituminous Coal	37	2
Illinois.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	7	2
Missouri.....	Charcoal	9	1
Michigan.....	Bituminous Coal and Coke	28	2
Wisconsin.....	Charcoal	10	1
Minnesota.....	Anthracite Coal and Coke	3	1
Oregon.....	Charcoal	1	1
Total.....		641	41
		42	124

men to temporarily block a highway. The equity of the case is perfectly clear. The companies have obtained valuable franchises for a specific consideration to be performed, viz.: The transportation of passengers, mails and freights in safety and without delay or obstruction. Their quarrels with their subordinates must be restricted within well defined legal limits. Conspiracies to enhance the price of necessities of life are punishable legally, and cases precedent are numerous where they have been punished, as in flour and grain corners, coal combinations and sugar rings. The railroad has become in our day quite as much a necessary of life as the article it produces, as the only means, in many cases, of obtaining such articles. In short, this whole theory of strikes is fast becoming insupportable to society, and must be regulated by the clear and proper remedy which we have in the laws. The legislators who, for political purposes, have hitherto catered to this feeling, must render their services in the future for the benefit of all. We clearly need, and the general feeling indicates that we shall soon compel, the enactment of some such law as the "Masters and Servants' Act" of Great Britain. The title may be unpalatable to the working classes, but we are all either masters or servants, and most of us both. Such a law will be the only remedy for the evil which will, if not restricted, bring business anarchy upon us, while the remedy would be of equal justice to employer and employee. The subject is a fruitful one and will be re-visited.

The Allentown *Chronicle*, a paper well posted on the iron interests of its region, has received from a "leading iron master" in conversation, the statement that most of the furnaces of the country are blowing in and orders for finished irons increasing. So far, good. The same iron master predicts, however, that next winter the dullness in iron will equal that of the present, and that there will be more iron made this spring than there will be next fall. He bases his reasoning on the fact that the Iron and Steel Association has stated there are 864 blast furnaces in the country in working order, capable of producing four million tons of pig iron—a quantity greater than the country can consume at present, and these furnaces, encouraged by the present demand, will go to work, so that before next fall the demand will be supplied, and another cessation will be occasioned, I give the *Chronicle* words as printed. Now, one need not be a "leading iron master" to dispute these statements. The report of the secretaries of the Association referred to gives the actual number of furnaces at 636—not 864—while, in point of fact, there are something near 750 as the actual number capable of making iron in 1873, not counting unfinished stacks. This is, however, immaterial to the question, the productive capacity being, as stated by Mr. Swank in his very thorough and able report, over four million tons. The point we controvert is, that this is a quantity greater than the country can consume. One of the principal errors of our statistics has been that we have persistently ignored the consumption of iron by the different industries. We collect, with great

Trade Report.

Office of THE IRON AGE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, Jan. 7, 1874.

The past week has been one of considerable activity in Wall street, especially in the Stock Exchange. The money market continues very easy for the season, call loans rating at 5 @ 7 per cent. to good borrowers. Prime mercantile paper is quoted at 7 @ 10 per cent. The payment of interest began on the second and has since continued. At this center it is estimated that it will amount to about \$75,000,000, and that \$90,000,000 to \$100,000,000 will come out in different parts of the country. The last bank statement rendered was favorable. It shows that the banks hold \$16,707,250 lawful money—against \$12,601,250 the previous week—above 25 per cent. of the total liabilities. The principal gain in the reserve was in specie, as the result of the Treasury disbursements, but from this time forth the legal tenders may be expected to increase. The expansion in loans was about \$3,000,000; the deposits increased \$10,240,000, showing that the banks have received a considerable amount of national bank currency in addition to the gain in legal tenders.

The gold market has ruled steady, with comparatively slight fluctuations. On Friday the new plan of calculating sterling exchange, as directed by Act of Congress, went into operation. Instead of quoting rates at so much per cent. premium, the quotation is now so many dollars and cents to the British pound sterling. The system which has been superseded was founded on the old par of 4 shillings and 6 pence to the dollar. The old dollar was the Spanish pillar dollar, of which there are very few extant, and the value of which was fully 4 shillings and 6 pence sterling. But in course of time the American dollar was coined, and as it was not intrinsically so valuable as the old Spanish dollar, the value fell to about the par of 4 shillings sterling, which was equivalent to 100%, and this was the par fixed for the payment of custom house duties.

The following shows the daily range of the gold premium:

	Highest.	Lowest.
Thursday	110%	109%
Friday	110%	104%
Saturday	111%	109%
Monday	111%	109%
Tuesday	111%	109%
Wednesday	111%	109%

The stock market continued active and buoyant up to Monday, when a sharp reaction set in, and prices declined from 1 to 2 per cent. The principal dealings were in Pacific Mail, Lake Shore, Western Union, Union Pacific, New York Central, Wabash, Northwestern and St. Paul. The highest and lowest of to-day's quotations of active shares are given below.

The bond market has been strong for governments. Railroad bonds are also strong and in good demand for investment. Mortgages on new roads are still regarded with suspicion, and will be for a long time to come. We give below the closing prices of governments.

During the week the financial houses of Messrs. Fisk & Hatch and Henry Clews & Co. resumed payments. We believe that neither firm had at any time lost the confidence of the public.

The movements in foreign trade for the week are given as follows:

Imports.	Exports.
1871. 1872. 1873.	1872. 1873.
Tot. for week. \$7,495,697 \$6,286,904	\$2,776,449
Prev. reported. 872,596,483 418,750,591	377,907,109

Since Jan. 1. \$280,082,094 \$42,017,495 \$380,683,558
Included in the imports of general merchandise for the week are:

Brass goods. Quant. Value.

Bronzes. 16 \$1,652

Copper. 12 \$3,000

Iron. 2,815 \$21,006

Guns. 1 250 43

Hardware. 24 3,847

Iron hoop, tons. 18 2,047

Iron pig, tons. 20 1,568

R. R. bars. 1,220 41,886

Iron cotton ties. 5,769 13,375

Iron, other, tons. 5,769 13,375

Lead, pigs. 387,1834

Lead, goods. 1,654 10,729

Nails. 8,823

Needles. 5 3,343

Old metal. 534

P. caps. 173

Saddlery. 2 414

Steel. 18 2,949

Tin, boxes. 748 9,143

Tin, 648 slabs. 13,711 117,400

Wire. 41,404 10,887

EXPORTS, EXCLUSIVE OF SPECIE. 1872. 1873. 1874.

For the week. \$35,190,260 \$35,133,906 \$40,908,685

The following is a comparison of the bank averages for the past two weeks:

Jan. 27. Jan. 28. Differences.

Loans. \$252,094,500 \$261,325,100 Inc. \$4,040,900

Specie. 32,514,300 28,355,500 Inc. 4,881,300

Tex. Ten. 44,664,000 46,458,100 Inc. 1,794,100

Deposits. 195,152,100 203,399,500 Inc. 10,247,400

Circulation. 27,156,100 27,186,300 Inc. 30,200

Government bonds close as follows:

Bid. Asked

U. S. 1881, reg. 116

U. S. 1881, con. 116%

U. S. 5-20 1882, reg. 116%

U. S. 5-20 1882, con. 116%

U. S. 5-30 1883, con. 116%</

on the other hand, hold up dull trade, scarcity of money amongst their customers, and slight embarrassments in the management of their business. For the present there is little doing. The companies refuse to make contracts, except for the immediate future, and for such there is but small demand. The Thomas Iron Co. quote us, for prompt delivery, as follows: No. 1 extra, \$36; No. 2 extra, \$33; Gray Forge, \$31. We learn that a number of furnaces on the Lehigh are being blown in, and the prospect of iron opening at a decidedly profitable price makes it probable that others will follow. No. 1 extra Foundry Iron can still be bought at \$35, and it is not believed that any considerable quantity has been sold at a higher price. We quote: No. 1 extra, \$35 @ \$36; No. 2 extra, \$32 @ \$33; Gray Forge, at works, \$27 to \$29; White and Mottled, at works, \$24.

Scotch Pig.—The market is very firm, late arrivals, amounting to 1200 tons, having all been stored, the dullness of business causing few inquiries, and importers not seeing disposed to force their stock on the market. We quote: Gartsherrie, \$47 @ \$48; Coltness, \$45; Glegarnock, \$42; Eglington, \$41.

Following are the prices of Scotch Pig Iron in Glasgow, as reported by Messrs. J. E. SWAN & Bros., under date of Dec. 19:

No. 1	No. 2	No. 4
Gartsherrie	113/6	107/-
Coltness	115/6	108/-
Summerlee	112/6	106/6
Langhoan	112/6	106/6
Orton	107/6	106/6
Caldwell	115/6	106/6
Shotts, Bessemer	109/-	107/6
do Ordinary	112/6	107/6
Carron	110/-	106/6
Wishaw	107/6	106/6
Monkland	107/6	106/6
Chapelhall	112/6	107/6
Clyde	108/-	106/6
Quarter-Clyde	106/6	106/6
Glasgow Warrants 3-8, No. 1; 2-5, No. 3, g. m. b.	105/6	
* f. o. Glasgow, 1/ per ton, extra.		
WEST-COAST BRANDS—f. o. b. Ardrosson.		
Glenarnock	110/-	106/6
Ardree		
Eglington		
Lugar	Branded Eglington, 187/	106/-
Muirkirk		
Portland		
Dalmeny	108/-	106/-

CURRENT RATES OF FREIGHT ON IRON.

From Glasgow.	From Ardrosson.
New York	7/6
Boston	7/6
New Orleans	17/-
Baltimore	17/-
Philadelphia	16/-
Portsmouth	30/-

PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6, 1874.

The Iron market has been very quiet since my last, with disposition on all sides to wait a little longer in the year before either selling or purchasing.

The furnace companies are generally resumed, and have pretty thoroughly exhausted any stocks of iron made in 1873. They evince no desire to contract for future deliveries, and, in the case of Lehigh companies, are very firm at \$36 for No. 1 Foundry, for immediate deliveries, with absolutely no price for the future. Forge Irons are scarce beyond question, and are appreciating slowly, with more active inquiry than for any other grades.

The mills which have been suspended are generally resuming, the Pottstown Iron Company having commenced work this week. Bars are in better demand, and specifications to a considerable amount offering at prices below the views of makers. The Rail mills are receiving sufficient encouragement to resume, and transactions to a considerable amount at better prices are being closed. Old Rails are scarce, and wanted at an advance.

Rails.—There is more inquiry for Rails, but prices remain quotable from \$35 @ \$36 per ton, gold. The larger part of the Rails in this market are held at the higher price, but others can be had at \$35, or possibly a shade less. We quote American, at works, \$36 @ \$35, currency.

Old Rails.—We quote Old Rails \$40 @ \$41.

Scrap.—Wrought Scrap from yard is held more firmly. We quote from \$42 @ \$45, and hear of offerings all the way between these figures.

METALS.

Copper.—The market for Lake is very quiet, but prices are well maintained. Sales for the week amount to 150,000 lbs. at 24½c. @ 24½c. cash. The closing quotations are 25c. per lb. cash, and for future delivery, 25½c. @ 26c. A sale is reported of 50,000 lbs., Cincin, for February delivery, at 26c. Cable despatches from London quote Chili Bars at 28d, and Be' Selected, 29d, an advance during the last two weeks of 2d per ton. The general feeling among the trade is that the market is in a healthy condition, and that there is no likelihood of immediate change. The demand for Manufactured Copper is, as it is invariably at this time of the year, very limited, but there is no change to note in prices. The quotations are: Copper Bolts, 35c.; Sheathing (over 12 oz.), 33c.; Braziers (over 16 oz.), 35c. Yellow Metal is in fair request at 26c. per lb. for Sheathing, and 32c. per lb. for Bolts.

Tin.—The market for Pig Tin during last week has been very quiet, and prices are slightly lower. Cable quotations from London give £116 as the value of Straits, and the rates in this market were lowered somewhat in consequence. The reduction is, however, very slight, and not regarded as permanent. Sales for the week comprise 250 Slabs Straits at 28c. @ 28½c., 250 do. at 27½c. @ 28½c., and 300 Slabs Billiton at 27½c. all gold. The closing quotations are as follows: Straits, 28c. @ 28½c.; Baucia, 32c. @ 32½c.; English L. & F., 26c. @ 26½c. English Refined, 21c. @ 21½c.; Malacea, 28c. @ 28½c., and Billiton, 27½c. @ 28c. The business in Tin Plates were very quiet during the week, and prices remain the same as before. The sales reported are 4000 boxes Charcoal, low grades, at \$9.75 @ \$10.25; 500 boxes Coke at \$8.50; 500 boxes Charcoal Terne at \$9.75, and 600 boxes Charcoal I. C. on a basis of \$10.50, all gold. The quotations to-day are, L. C. Charcoal, \$10.25 @ \$10.50; L. C. Coke, \$8 @ \$8.25; Coke Terne, \$6.75 @ \$8.25; Charcoal Terne, \$9.25 @ \$10.50, gold.

The following is the import of Tin into New York, from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31:

Pigs

No. 79,320 92,312

Plates

bxs. 936,273 966,579

Lead.—The market for foreign is very dull, and there are no transactions to report. Prices are quoted at 64c. @ 65c. for ordinary, and 75c. @ 76c. for refined, gold. Domestic is quiet at 6c. @ 6½c. gold. Bar is reported steady at 9½c., and Sheet and Pipe have been reduced to 9c. per lb., with usual discount to the trade. Tin Lined Pipe is quoted at 16½c. per lb., less 10 per cent.

Selter and Zinc.—There is very little doing in foreign Selter and prices are partly nominal. Selected Silesian is quoted at 75c. gold. A sale of 25 tons Western was effected last week at about 8c. per lb. currency. Sheet Zinc is in moderate demand at unchanged rates.

Antimony.—A sale of five casks of Regulus is reported at 18c. per lb., gold. There is but a small stock on hand, and holders quote 13½c. gold, as their lowest selling price.

COAL.

The demand for Coal continues very limited, owing in part to the long continued mild weather, and also to the general dullness of trade incident to this season of the year. There is no quotable change in prices of Anthracite to note, although we have reports of transactions where concessions of 15c. @ 30c. per ton have been made on the established rates. The sale of Scranton Coal, reported below, while resulting in a slight reduction of prices, does not appear to have affected the general market to any great extent, and the general opinion in the trade is that no change will take place until the companies which virtually control the market meet in March next and decide the tariff for the year ensuing. Several of the companies have agreed with the miners to continue to pay wages on the basis of last year, and there is not much prospect of any serious trouble arising in that quarter. Still, as other operators pro-

pose to make a reduction of 10 per cent. from last year's rates, and as the miners have resolved to meet in Philadelphia on the 8th instant to discuss the matter, it might be as well to suspend judgment. The present prices of Anthracite from the yard range from \$5.50 @ \$6.50 per ton.

The regular monthly auction sale of Scranton coal took place on Wednesday, Dec. 31st, at the salerooms of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, No. 26 Exchange Place, John H. Draper being the auctioneer. The attendance was large and the bidding spirited, and the amount offered—70,000 tons—was rapidly disposed of.

There was an average decline on all the varieties, particularly on Chestnut and Stove. The following is the average decline per ton: Chestnut, 26½c. cents; Stove, 15 cents; Egg, 7½c. cents; Grade, 6½c. cents; Steamboat, 7½c. cents. The following are the prices as compared with those of last year:

TONS. NOV. DEC.

Steamboat, 8,000 \$4.85 @ \$4.90

Grade 14,000 4.97 @ 5.00

Egg 10,000 5.80 @ 6.00

Stove 28,000 4.43 @ 4.50

Chestnut 10,000 4.53 @ 4.57

Scrub 10,000 4.50 @ 4.57

10,000

The new combination in Coal, consisting of the Wilkesbarre, Honeybrook, and Lehigh Coal Companies, in alliance with the Central Railroad of New Jersey, will form a large and powerful corporation, but it does not yet appear what effect it will have on the general course of the market. The same combination has virtually existed, although not in its present organized form, for years, and it is reasonable to suppose that their future action will be, to some extent, guided by and formed upon their previous policy.

The market for Bituminous Coal is unusually depressed, even for this season of the year, and prices have given way somewhat in consequence. The quotations of Cumberland Coal are now from \$6.70 @ \$7.00 per ton.

Foreign Coal is in moderate demand, and the prices quoted are: Liverpool House Canal, \$20; do. Gas, \$14; Newcastle Gas, \$10; Scotch do., \$10 @ \$12; Scotch Steam, \$7 @ \$7.50.

The total shipments of Coal over the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad, for 1873 were 2,248,665 tons, against 1,890,605 tons in 1872, making an increase in 1873 of 358,053 tons.

Jan. Feb. Mar. April. May. June.

1872 \$51.00 75.00

1873 84.00 84.00

American rails have been paralleled with the rest of the market. The business done has been smaller than for three years past, the imports from England and the Continent being curtailed by the high prices prevailing there. The highest figure reached during the year was \$53 in May, and the lowest \$28, during the height of the panic. Prices have since recovered to \$37 to \$38, although, at present, many holders refuse to sell at considerably better than these figures. Beneath is the average price of old rails for 1872 and 1873:

OLD RAILS.

JAN. FEB. MAR. APRIL. MAY. JUNE.

1872 \$4.50 4.50

1873 4.50 4.50

Wrought scrap has sympathized with the rest of the market. The business done has been smaller than for three years past, the imports from England and the Continent being curtailed by the high prices prevailing there. The highest figure reached during the year was \$53 in May, and the lowest \$28, during the height of the panic. Prices have since recovered to \$37 to \$38, although, at present, many holders refuse to sell at considerably better than these figures. Beneath is the average price of old rails for 1872 and 1873:

NO. 1 WROUGHT SCRAP.

JAN. FEB. MAR. APRIL. MAY. JUNE.

1872 \$47.00 49.00

1873 44.00 44.00

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All Nicholson Files are cut with the Patent Increment Cut, an invention owned and controled exclusively by us, the file cut in this manner being Patented as a new article of manufacture, and differs from all other machine cut files (all of which have their teeth cut with equal spaces) by being cut with teeth slightly expanding or increasing in size and space from the point, thus avoiding the too great regularity of teeth common to all other machine cut files. The tendency of all cutting tools with teeth or cutters placed at regular distances from each other may be illustrated (to the machinist at least) by the fluted reamer—as it is well known that if a round reamer be made with (say 12) teeth whose spaces are equidistant, the hole reamed will not be round and smooth, but will approximate to a hexagon in shape. Whereas, if the same number of teeth be made of irregular distances, the hole reamed will be both round and smooth. The same is true of a file, hence the necessity of its having teeth at unequal distances, and to which we have applied the name of Increment Cut File, which possesses all the advantages of hand cut work, and the accuracy and uniformity of machine work. It is now upwards of seven years since this File was introduced to the public, and the demand has increased until our production is undoubtedly treble that of any File manufactory in the country.

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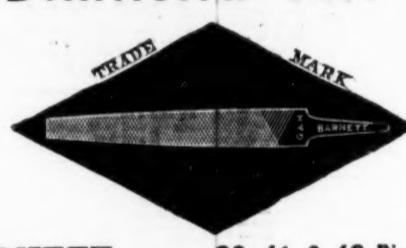
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Largest Stock and Best Assortment in the United States of
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COPPER AND ZINC SASH CHAIN.

The Best and Cheapest made.

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Agents for Gantlett's Black Lead Gaskets,
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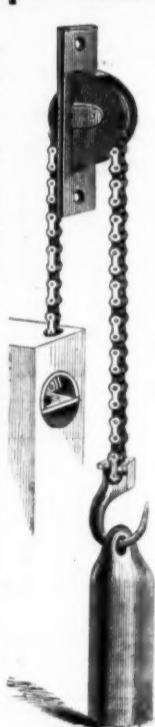


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Manufacturer of

Brass & Copper Chain,

And patented attachments for same, for suspending windows, from 100 to 1500 lbs. Sashes can be suspended with my Chain and attachments in a shorter time and with less trouble than by using the ordinary common cord. I am now offering the Chain and fastenings cheaper than any other in the market. Also manufacturer of the MORTON & BRENNER'S Straight and Circular Spring Balances. Established in 1842.



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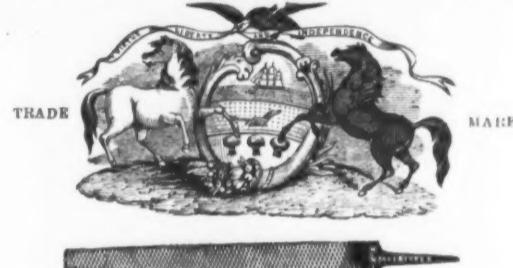
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Butcher's	\$5.50 to \$ gold—new list
Newbold's	\$5.50 to \$ gold
Spear & Jackson's	\$5.50 to \$ gold—new list
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Norway or Best.	dis 20% & 5%
Superior	dis 40% & 10%
" " Superior, Philadelphia	dis 45% & 5%
Coal Shovels.	
Iron Handled	9 doz. \$ 1.25
Wooden Handled	9 doz. 1.00 to 2.00
Coat Hods.	No. 14 15 16 17 18
Common Japanese	18.00 19.25 20.50 21.75 23.00 per doz
" Galvanized	18.00 14.50 15.50 17.50 19.50 "
Union	9 doz. 9.00
Bay State, Faring, Coring and Slicing	15.00 16.00 17.00 18.00 19.00
Climax Slicer	9.00
Bay State, Peach Paper	\$11.00 @ 11.00
Lightning	11.00 @ 11.00
Pewd Stones and Halyer	
Asps and Bits	
Swell Mfg. Co.	dis 15% to 30%
Russell Jennings	dis 10%
Douglas Mfg. Co., Extra	
Worms	
Hollow Augers	dis 20% to 30%
Cushman's Expanding Hollow Augers	dis 20%
Ives' Augers and Bits	dis 30% to 40%
Excell. L. & A. Augers and Bits	dis 30% to 40%
John Stow's Wicks	dis 25%
Hollow Augers	dis 30% to 40%
Expansive Hollow Augers	dis 30% to 40%
Expansive Bits	dis 20% to 30%
Andrews' Bits	dis 20% to 30%
Con's Parent Augers	dis 20% to 30%
" Bits	dis 25% to 40%
Shepardson's Double Cut Bits	dis 20%
Griswold's Patent	dis 20%
Gardette's	dis 20%
" Alpine Bits	dis 30% to 40%
Long Augers	new list dis 10% to 15%
Bonney's Patent Hollow	\$48 per doz. dis 25%
Stearns	\$48 per doz. dis 25%
Wood Bit Stock Drills	dis 30%
Nobles Mfg. Co. C. S. Cut Augers	dis 30% to 50%
Watrous Side Augers	dis 10%
Axes.	
Hunt's	\$12.50 net @ 14.00
Collins'	\$10.00 net @ 15.00
Burd's	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Scovill's	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Simmons'	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Morris'	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Red Jacket	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Mann	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Double Bit	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Powell Tool Co., Peirce's	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Underhill's	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
" Crown	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
John Leverett's	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Nobles Mfg. Co. B.	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
D. B.	\$12.50 net @ 15.00
Balances.	
Chapman's	new list dis 15%
Mary's	new list dis 15%
Morton's	
Bands.	Plated. add 10% dis 15% to 25%
Brass (Plated list)	add 15% to 35%
Orifice	
Bells.	
Hand Bell Brass	.dis 0.05 to 0.10
White Metal	.dis 0.10 to 0.15
Globe	.dis 10% to 15%
Abbe's Patent Door	.net
Vane	.net
Brook's Crank	.net
" Full	.net
Hart Mfg. Co., Crank and Pull	.net
Conn. Cannon Windup	.net
Washington Mills—Regulation Nos.	9.50 to 10.50
Kentucky "Star"	.net
Taylor's Patent Door	.net
John Genuines	.net
Nobles Mfg. Co. B.	.net
D. B.	.net
Blades.	
Ingersoll's Ratchet	.dis 25%
Moore's Triple Acting Ratchet	.dis 30%
Erg Beaters.	
Moore's	.dis 25%
Ashley's	.dis 25%
Earle's Patent	.dis 25%
Dover.	.dis 25%
Native	.dis 25%
Peerless	.dis 25%
Drawing Knives.	
Bradley's	dis 60@ 60.50
Adjustable Handled	dis 10%
Horn	
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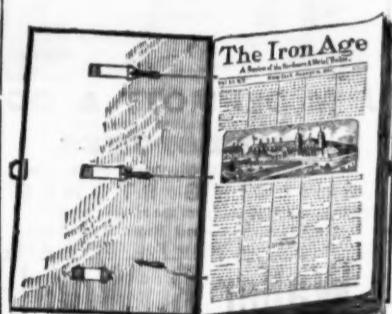
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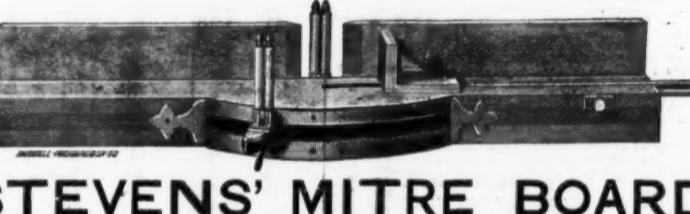
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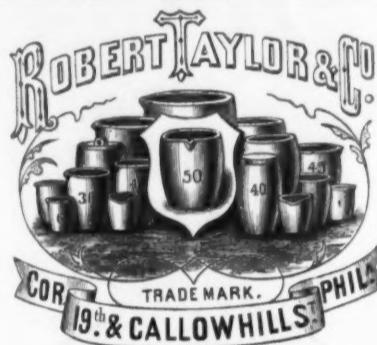
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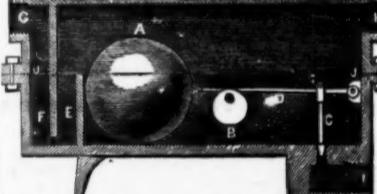
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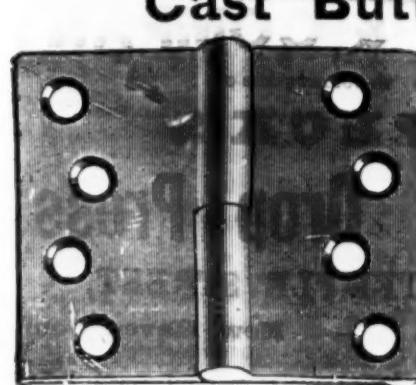
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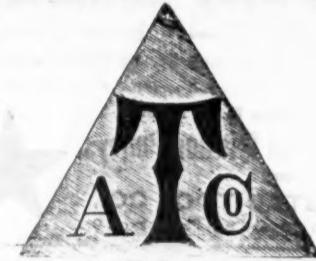
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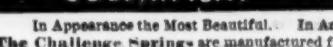
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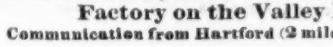
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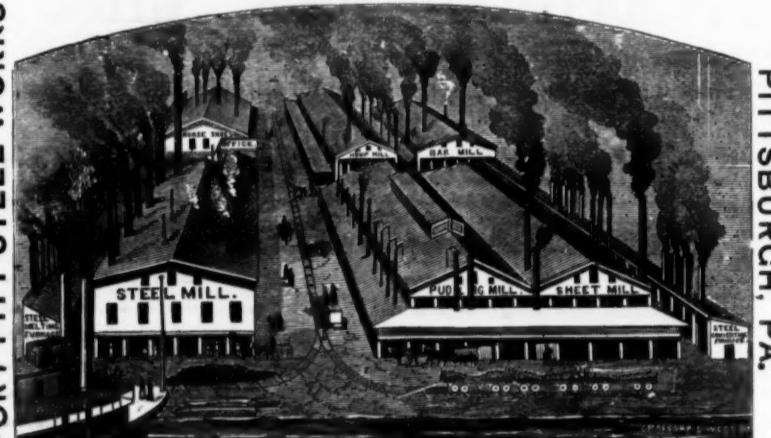
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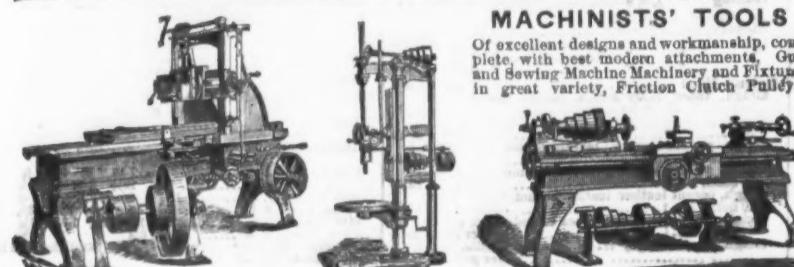
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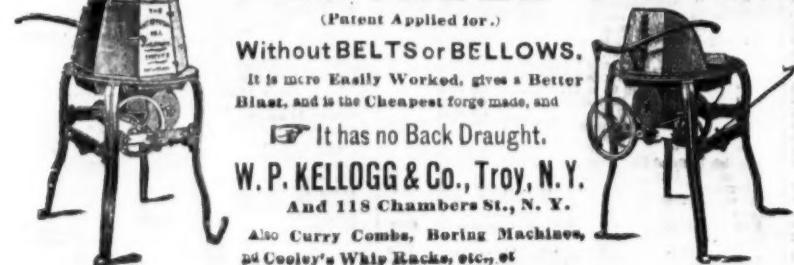
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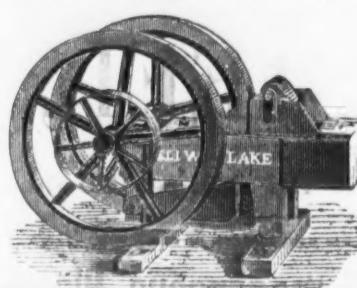
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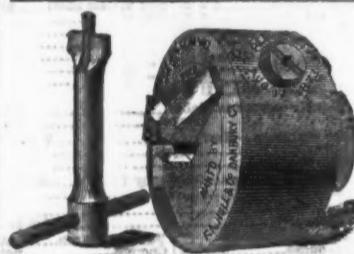
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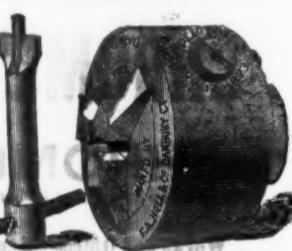
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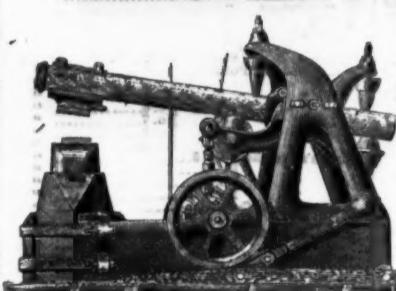
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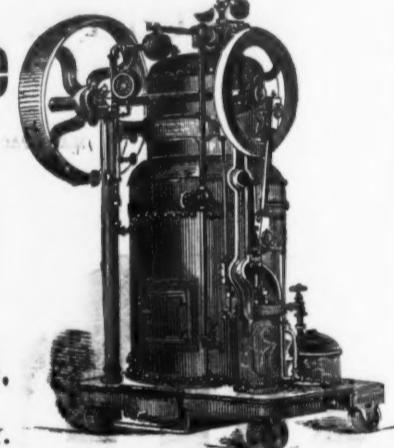
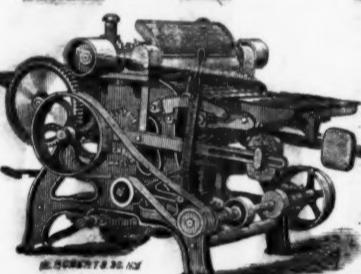
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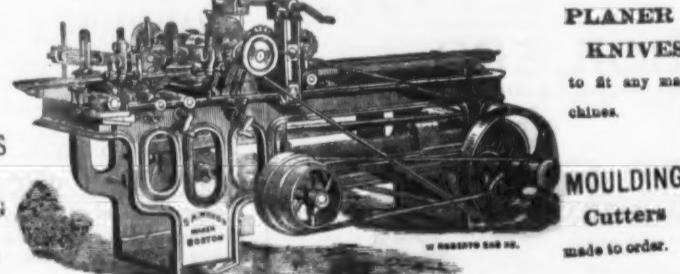
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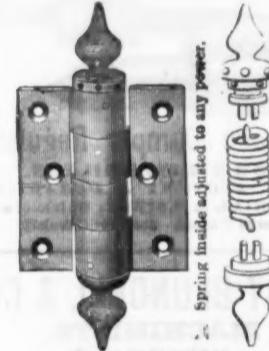


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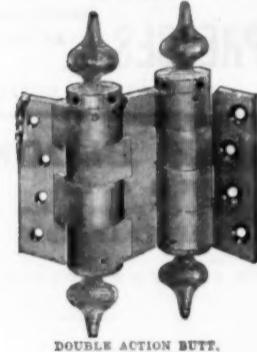
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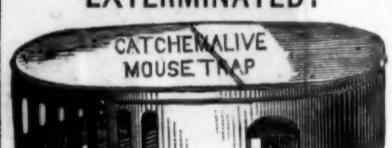
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These lubricators are screwed on to the steam chest, and through a hollow tube which rises in the center, the steam, when turned on, causes the valve to open, allowing the oil to pass through the tube, and striking the top of the cup, condenses and falls down into the body of the vessel, and being heavier than the oil or tallow which has become melted, displaces a certain quantity, which flows through an opening in the tube before mentioned, down into the steam chest below—thus steadily and surely accomplishing its work.

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NATHAN & DREYFUS,

Sole Manufacturers,

108 Liberty Street, N. Y.